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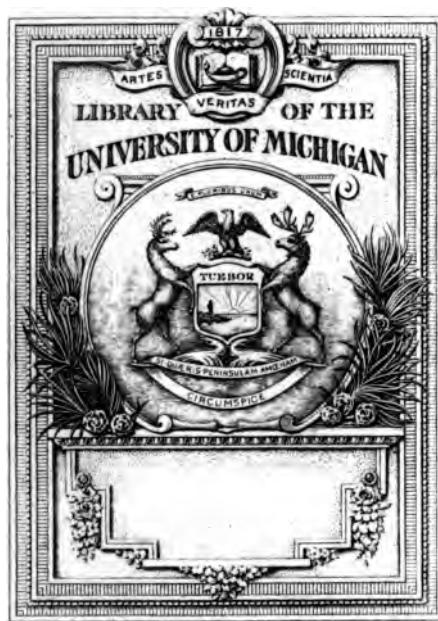
TEXAS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

# HANDBOOK

OF

# TEXAS LIBRARIES

AUSTIN  
1904







Texas library association

TEXAS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

HANDBOOK

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OF

TEXAS LIBRARIES

EDITED BY THE SECRETARY

AUSTIN  
1904

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## PREFACE

This book is issued in accordance with the action of the Texas State Library Association at its meeting last October; but it could not have been published without the encouragement and the financial support given by the officers and members of the Texas Federation of Women's clubs. As in most of the newer states, the movement in our own state for the establishment of libraries free to all the people is largely in the hands of the club women, and the initial progress of this form of educational activity must be largely attributed to their zealous and persistent work.

A circular letter asking for information suitable for this Handbook was mailed in March to every member of the Association, to every Texas library named in the Report of the United States Commissioner of Education, and to other institutions and individuals. Second, and even third, circulars were mailed to some of those failing to reply, and a number of letters were written. From the material thus gathered, supplemented by the advance sheets of the forthcoming Report of the Commissioner of Education this brief account of Texas libraries was made, some of the sketches being re-written, some printed without change. Omissions or mis-statements should be reported to the Association for correction in possible future issues of the Handbook.

PHINEAS L. WINDSOR

The University of Texas Library  
Austin, October, 1904

Secretary

## **TEXAS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION**

First. The name of this organization shall be "The Texas State Library Association."

Second. The purpose and object of this Association shall be the promotion of library interests in Texas.

Third. The home and headquarters of the Texas State Library Association shall be at the city of Austin, Texas.

Fourth. The membership of the Texas State Library Association shall consist of the undersigned, who are hereby declared to be its charter members, and of such other reputable persons as may hereafter from time to time be elected to membership by the Executive Board to be hereinafter created, or by the Association itself. Members shall be classed as active or general, and as honorary members. The dues of active or general members are fixed at \$1 per year. The dues of honorary members are fixed at \$10, the payment of which sum, once made, entitles such honorary member to a life membership in the Texas State Library Association. It shall also be competent to the Association when in session to elect honorary members without dues, when, in the judgment of the Association, such persons have rendered the State of Texas or this Association such distinguished public services as to clearly entitle them to this honor.

Fifth. The administration and control of the affairs of this Association (when the Association itself is not in session) is vested in an Executive Board of the Association, consisting of a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer, serving ex-officio (all of which officers are to be chosen by the Association only), and one representative from each congressional district; these congressional district members of the Executive Board, for the first year of this Association; thereafter such members of the Executive Board shall be chosen by the Association at its annual meetings; but by special resolution at such regular meeting the President may, from time to time, be empowered to appoint such congres-

sional district members. Five members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The usual parliamentary rules shall apply in the conduct of this Association, and its officers shall possess and exercise the usual common law and statutory powers of their respective offices and be charged with the usual duties and responsibilities of their several positions, subject, however, to such by-laws of the Association as may be adopted by the Executive Board and to such resolutions as may be passed by the Association itself.

Sixth. The annual meetings of this Association shall be held in the city of Austin, Texas, on the third Tuesday of November of each year, save and except that the Association itself by resolution upon adjournment, or the Executive Board, when the Association is not in session, may fix the annual meetings of the Association at such other times and such other places in Texas as they may from time to time order and appoint. Annual meetings of the Executive Board shall be held on the day before, and at the place of the regular annual meeting of the Association. Special meetings of the Executive Board may be called by the President of the Association when in his judgment the vital interests of the Association so require. And it is hereby made his duty to call a special meeting of said Executive Board when so requested in writing by three or more members of said Board.

Seventh. The provisions of this charter and such by-laws as the Executive Board may provide, and it is made their duty to frame a system of by-laws by the next annual meeting of this Association, can be altered, amended or annulled at any regular meeting of this Association, provided such proposed change in this charter or in the by-laws of this Association is submitted in writing and filed with the Secretary of the Association at least thirty days before the next annual meeting of the Association thereafter.

**OFFICERS****1901-1903**

*President.* William L. Prather, Austin.

*Vice Presidents.* Miss Rosa M. Leeper, Dallas; Mrs. Joseph C. Terrell, Fort Worth.

*Treasurer.* Albert C. Read, El Paso.

*Secretary.* Benjamin Wyche, Austin.

**1903-1904**

*President.* William L. Prather, Austin.

*Vice Presidents.* Mrs. Joseph C. Terrell, Fort Worth; Benjamin Wyche, San Antonio.

*Treasurer.* Albert C. Read, El Paso.

*Secretary.* Phineas L. Windsor, Austin.

**MEMBERS****1903-1904**

<b>ANSON</b>	Windsor, P. L.
Woman's club	Wooldridge, A. P.
<b>ATHENS</b>	<b>BASTROP</b>
Current Literature club	Bastrop Public library
<b>AUSTIN</b>	Ladies' Reading club
American History club	<b>BEAUMONT</b>
Benson, B. K.	Twentieth Century club
Carothers, Mrs. Neil	<b>BELTON</b>
Ellis, A. Caswell	Carnegie library
Hall, Miss N. M.	Public library
Pathfinder's club	<b>BRENHAM</b>
Mezes, S. E.	Fortnightly Public library
Prather, W. L.	<b>BRYAN</b>
Raines, C. W.	Mutual Improvement club
Sammons, Mrs. E. G.	<b>CISCO</b>
Shakespeare club	Twentieth Century club
Smith, Miss M. B.	<b>CLARKSVILLE</b>
Sutton, W. S.	New Century club

## **MEMBERS**

**7**

<b>CLEBURNE</b>	Smith, Maria Martin
Magazine club	Stone, Mrs. Cornelia B.
Woman's club	
<b>CLIFTON</b>	
Magazine club	<b>GEOGETOWN</b>
<b>COLORADO CITY</b>	McKennon, Mrs. Margaret
Colorado Woman's club	
Hesperian club	<b>HOUSTON</b>
Standard club	Houston Lyceum and Carnegie library.
<b>CORSICANA</b>	Ideson, Julia
Pierian club	Jones, Ethel P.
<b>DALLAS</b>	Ladies' Reading club
Dallas Public library	Ring, Mrs. H. F.
Jones, Mrs. J. A.	
Ledbetter, Mrs. Eleanore	<b>LAMPASAS</b>
Leeper, Rose M.	Lampasas Library association
Shakespeare club	
<b>EL PASO</b>	<b>LOCKHART</b>
Burges, R. F.	Irving Club
Couchesne, A.	Woman's Club
Gallagher, Dr. Francis W.	
Irvin, Mrs. O. C.	<b>LONGVIEW</b>
Read, Albert C.	Shakespeare Club
Read, Mrs. Albert C.	
Turney, W. W.	<b>McGREGOR</b>
Woman's club	McGregor Public Library
<b>FORT WORTH</b>	
Monday Book club	<b>MCKINNEY</b>
'93 club	Edelweiss club
Scheuber, Mrs. Charles	Library association
Terrell, Mrs. J. C.	Owl club
Woman's Wednesday club	
<b>GALVESTON</b>	<b>MARSHALL</b>
Austin, Elizabeth	Marshall Library association
Crooks, Lucy	Sesame club
Echo club	Shakespeare club
Gardiner, Mary C.	Woman's club
Magnenat, Florence	
Patten, Frank C.	<b>MIDLAND</b>
	'99 Club
	<b>MINEOLA</b>
	Woman's Wednesday club
	<b>NACOGDOCHES</b>
	Cum Concilio club
	<b>PARIS</b>
	Lotus club
	Twentieth Century club

**PALESTINE**

Palestine Public library

**PECOS**

Merry Wives club

**PORT ARTHUR**

Woman's Self-Improvement  
club

**PROCTOR**

Alpha club

**REALITOS**

Miller, G. B.

**SAN ANGELO**

Woman's club

**SAN ANTONIO**

Wyche, Benjamin  
Wyche, Mrs. Benjamin

**SEALY**

Ladies' Reading club

**SEGUIN**

Shakespeare club

**SHERMAN**

Shakespeare club

**STEPHENVILLE**

Twentieth Century club

**TERRELL**

Carnegie club  
Price, Mrs. Oscar  
St. Cecilia club  
Social Science club

**TYLER**

First Literary club  
Free Public library.  
Judge, Mrs. Arthur  
Potter, Mrs. E. H.  
Sawyer, Mary

**VAN ALSTYNE**

Culture club

**VICTORIA**

Bronte library

**WACO**

Baylor University library  
Current Events club  
Modern Writers club  
Texas Press club  
Waco Library club  
Waco Literary club  
Waco Woman's club

**WHARTON**

New Century club



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BELTON. PUBLIC LIBRARY



## HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF TEXAS LIBRARIES

### ABILENE

**Federation library.** Founded in 1898, this subscription library now has 1630 volumes. A limited number of books for children are bought, and children are accorded a few special privileges in using reference books. The library is open an hour and a half daily. The governing board: Miss Ella Cockrell, president; Mrs. C. O. Morris, first vice president; Mrs. P. S. Kauffman, second vice president; Mrs. Al. Leighty, third vice president; Mrs. John Morrow, recording secretary; Mrs. Hannee Hardie, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Anna Cocke, treasurer; Mrs. Sarah Walshe, auditor. Emma L. Taylor is librarian.

**Simmons college** library was founded in 1892 and now has 6000 volumes and 500 pamphlets. 40 periodicals are currently received. Oscar Cooper, Jr., is librarian.

### ALVIN

The **Public high school** library, founded in 1890, now contains about 5000 volumes.

### ARLINGTON

The **Carlisle school** for boys maintains a library of 1000 volumes.

### AUSTIN

The **Blind institute**, a state institution opened in 1856, has a library of 6000 volumes, of which 5000 volumes are in raised type for the blind. Ten periodicals are subscribed for. Amount spent last year, \$1450. The library is open ten hours daily and is a much used and appreciated part of the school.

**St. Edward's college** library contains 5000 volumes, and is free to the public for reference.

**Samuel Huston college** (colored) maintains a library of 1100 volumes.

**State library.** The first books for a state library were recommended by the finance committee of the Provisional government of Texas in January, 1836. The list comprised the following volumes:—1. Civil law books: *Corpus juris civilis*, and *Code de Napoleon*. 2. American works: constitution of the United States, constitutions of the several states, laws of the United States, Kent's *Commentaries*, journals and debates of congress, life and writings of Thomas Jefferson and history of the United States. 3. Books on the common law: *Blackstone's Commentaries*, *Viner's Abridgment* and *Sidney on Government*. The character of this collection shows clearly the predominant American sentiment at that time and the mixed system of jurisprudence in Texas.

The third congress of the republic in 1839 appropriated \$10,000 "for the purpose of purchasing a library for the use of the government" authorizing President Lamar to select and purchase the books and directing "that the said books be deposited in the office of the secretary of state," who thus became ex-officio the state librarian. Three years after annexation, the legislature passed "an act for the exchange of books, maps and charts" with the other states of the union, with the federal government and with certain foreign governments. By its provisions, the secretary of state was recognized as state librarian and the collection so coming into his office was to constitute a state library "subject to the inspection and use of all officers of the state government and both branches of the legislature."

*The Supreme court library.*—By act of 1854 the secretary of state was authorized "to transfer to the control of the judges of the Supreme court, all law books and court reports coming into his office by way of interchange" and the sum of \$15,000 was "appropriated and placed under the control and management of the judges of the Supreme court to be expended in the purchase of books for the use of the supreme court." This was the origin of the Supreme Court Library which is still a separate state institution.

The legislature in 1856, appropriated \$5000 for the purchase of books for the state library to be expended under the direction of Governor Pease. After a lapse of ten years embracing the period of the Civil war and the first year of the restored union, the legislature formally created the office of state librarian and empowered

the governor to appoint a "suitable and competent person to fill said office." The Commissioner of Insurance, Statistics and History took charge of the state library under our present constitution in 1876 and his chief clerk became ex-officio state librarian. It was also made the duty of the commissioner "to preserve and cause to be bound the current files of not less than six nor more than ten leading newspapers in the state for the future use of the historian."

It is estimated that there were about 8000 volumes in the state library when it was destroyed by fire with the capitol in 1881. Liberal sums were soon appropriated for the restoration of the library, though they were not expended, because of lack of a suitable library room. Meanwhile, however, the federal documents and state exchanges continued coming in to the commissioner thus making the nucleus for the next collection. The Honorable Secretary of the Interior kindly supplied to the library the lost federal documents from such duplicates as he had on hand, sending from first to last several thousand volumes for this purpose.

The state librarian was required to keep a complete catalogue of all the books and to obey the rules and regulations prescribed by the secretary of state. Members of the legislature and state officers residing in Austin might borrow books from the library to be returned in two weeks; and it was made the duty of the librarian to publish the names of all borrowers of books who failed to return them.

Robert Josselyn, Esq., quondam private secretary to President Davis, was appointed state librarian at a salary of \$1000. He was removed the next year (1867) by Gen. Sheridan, as an impediment to reconstruction with Gov. Throckmorton and other Democratic officials. Mr. Josselyn had before his dismissal made a catalogue, from which it appeared that there were in the state library 5427 volumes, mainly of choice and standard works.

The cost of the state library and of the Supreme court library up to this time was estimated at \$37000. The state library then occupied a large room in the third story of the capitol. Under the reconstruction constitution in 1871, the state library was returned to the office of the secretary of state and a clerk in that office was made ex-officio state librarian.

It was not till the administration of Governor Hogg (1891-95) and after the occupation by the state government of the new capitol

that the rehabilitation of the state library began in earnest. More liberal appropriations were made for the purchase of books for the library and a new fund created for the collection of data for Texas history. In the Department of Agriculture, Insurance, Statistics and History, was created the office of historical clerk, who in addition to his other duties, was ex-officio state librarian. C. W. Raines, the present incumbent, was appointed to the office with a salary of \$1500. In 1893-94 he traveled extensively over the state in his official capacity and gathered up nearly all the newspapers of the Republic and of the early state that are now in the library, besides many valuable books, pamphlets and manuscripts. Next followed a temporary reversal of this policy; all library appropriations were reduced and the salary of the state librarian, then Eugene Digges, was cut down to \$1100 per annum.

Within the last thirteen years the books outside the federal and state publications have increased from less than 100 to more than 4000 and the books now classed as Texas-Mexican have increased from 30 up to about 1000; and the early newspaper collection has been almost entirely acquired since 1891. The library has also been recently receiving typewritten copies of valuable Texas historical manuscripts from the *Archivo general* in the city of Mexico.

The present biennial library appropriation is \$1000 for books and \$500 for collecting data for Texas history and the Librarian's salary is fixed at \$1200 per annum. The last legislature also provided the library two assistants; one, as cataloguer and the other, as Spanish translator and classifier of manuscripts. Miss Harriet Talbot was the appointed card cataloguer and Mr. E. W. Winkler, a graduate of the University of Texas, the Spanish translator and classifier of manuscripts. Satisfactory progress is now making in both these lines of library work.

The strength of the Texas State library is its Southwestern *Americana* and 10,000 Spanish and other MSS which are now being classified. At least nine-tenths of the books in the state library, not counting the public documents, have been selected by the present librarian.

Number of volumes now in the library, 15,000; pamphlets, 12,000. 15 periodicals are received. The library is open  $8\frac{1}{2}$  hours on week days, except holidays. The Commissioner of agriculture,

insurance, statistics and history is Honorable W. C. Clay; librarian, Cadwell Walton Raines.

**Supreme court library**, founded in 1846, is now an excellent law library of over 13,000 volumes, and is much used by members of the profession who have business in the capitol. About 500 volumes are added yearly.

The **Texas academy of science**, through the exchanges it receives for its "Transactions," and through gifts, has collected a library of considerable value which is now deposited in the library of the University of Texas. It consists chiefly of unbound journals, reports, and transactions of scientific societies, American and foreign, and occupies about 120 linear feet of shelving. Librarian, Phineas L. Windsor.

**Texas school for the deaf** has a library of 2800 volumes free for reference use.

The **Texas state historical association** library is deposited in the library of the University of Texas, and consists of the publications of similar societies, chiefly American, given in exchange for the "Quarterly." Valuable gifts have also been made to the association by citizens of the state. Librarian, George P. Garrison.

**Tillotson college** library (colored), founded in 1881, contains 2000 volumes.

The **University of Texas library**. From the opening of the University, in 1883, the Board of Regents has recognized the necessity of providing a library, and has made an appropriation nearly every year for this purpose. Altogether these appropriations have amounted to about \$40,000 and have been expended under the direction of the faculty with two purposes usually in view: first, to afford aid to the students in the various courses of instruction offered, and second, to furnish some of the more expensive books, journals, and transactions of learned societies, without which it is utterly impossible for the professors to maintain their efficiency as instructors and as productive scholars, and which go toward making possible the prosecution of creditable work in the library by graduate students.

In the early days, while the collection of books was very small, a room on the third floor was used, and the librarian had other

duties to perform than those connected with the library; "proctor and librarian" was the title for about ten years, then "proctor, librarian, and secretary of the faculty." For a year or two Mr. Smith Ragsdale was proctor, but in the catalogue of 1884-85 the name of the present incumbent appeared, and Judge James B. Clark long and efficiently discharged the duties of librarian and endeared himself to hundreds of student users of the library. He saw the library grow from the merest beginning to the almost pretentious number of 15,000 volumes, besides the law library and the more than 10,000 volumes in the Palm collection; and saw it moved to larger rooms on the first floor. One's whole time was, however, needed; and in 1897 Mr. Benjamin Wyche was appointed librarian. During the six years that Mr. Wyche occupied the position the library grew to nearly 40,000 volumes, all told, and about 13,000 pamphlets, with the consequent increase of administrative and routine duties; an assistant and a cataloguer were added to the staff; he also began giving instruction to a class in library methods, and to make the library a factor in the general movement for libraries in Texas.

A class in library methods was conducted in 1901-02, and four of the class are now employed in Texas libraries. In 1903-04 the class was continued. Besides the regular class, provision is made for those connected with Texas libraries who can only devote a few weeks to preparing themselves for the work.

Besides books purchased, this library has been the recipient of many gifts, the most valuable of which was the library of Sir Swante Palm, Swedish consul at Austin. There 10,200 volumes and several thousand pamphlets and newspapers show unmistakable evidences of careful and intelligent selection, and the many marginal and fly-leaf notes in his own handwriting establish the fact that here was a collector of books who read and who not only read, but studied. After he had given his library, Sir Swante was made assistant librarian at a nominal salary, and retained this connection with his beloved books till his death in 1899. In fine arts, travel, biography, Texas history, and Swedish history and literature, the Palm collection has not only added greatly to the strength of the library, but in some subjects, the books of this collection constitute the whole strength of the library. So broad were his interests and

so long did he devote himself to his books that there is scarcely any part of the library which does not owe something to this gift.

The briefest record of valuable gifts is not complete without mention of the rare Piranesi engravings, given by Mr. W. B. Isham, of New York; the books on Texas history, given by Hon. G. W. Brackenridge; the library of Southern literature, given by Mr. H. P. Hilliard; the private library of Ashbel Smith; engineering periodicals, by Mr. J. M. Howe; and the bound file of the Galveston Daily News, given by Mrs. John E. Thornton. The University also possesses the Swenson collection of coins and medals, and exceedingly valuable manuscript archives relating to Texas history.

The appropriation for books and periodicals last year was \$2500 for the general library and \$500 for the law library. The library fee paid by each student is used for binding and supplies, and amounted to \$830 for the general library, and \$186 for the law library. Certain of the schools also have funds which are sometimes used in part in the purchase of books.

The library now numbers over 43,000 volumes, of which 4500 are law books and 5000 are United States documents; about 13,000 pamphlets; many Texas newspapers, largely of recent years; and a few maps, portraits, and photographs. Accessions during the fiscal year 1903-1904 were 4753 volumes and 1200 pamphlets; of these, 1505 volumes were purchased, 504 volumes of periodicals were bound, and 2744 volumes were received by gift. Dewey's Decimal classification is used and a dictionary card catalogue is nearly complete. The recorded circulation of books for use outside the library was 16,871; the largest use, however, is as a reference rather than as a circulating library, and no record is kept showing this use. Books have also been loaned to other Texas libraries, and to libraries outside the state. The library is open during the university session daily, except Sundays and holidays, from 8:30 a. m. to 6 p. m.

The library committee of the faculty is Edwin W. Fay, professor of Latin; chairman; George P. Garrison, professor of history; and Milton B. Porter, professor of mathematics. The library staff is Phineas L. Windsor, librarian; Mary E. Dunham, first assistant; Willie Davis, second assistant; Nellie M. Hall, cataloguer.

**Young Men's Christian Association library.** About 1894 this library was started for the use of members and now contains about

2000 volumes, mostly fiction. 30 newspapers and periodicals are received currently. On each week day the library is open 12 hours; on Sundays, 3 hours. The Secretary of the Association acts as librarian and often has opportunity to direct the reading of the men and boys who use the reading room.

### BASTROP

**Public library.** Founded in 1900, it now contains about 800 volumes and 1000 pamphlets. 6 periodicals are received regularly, and the library is open 3 hours daily, including Sundays and holidays. \$100 was received from the city last year and \$100 from other sources. Children are specially encouraged to use the books. Much interest is taken in the library by the Ladies' reading circle, Mrs. E. H. Jenkins, corresponding secretary. The governing board is composed of the following: Hon. J. B. Price, W. E. Maynard, R. J. Griesenbeck, and P. D. Page. Matt Reynolds is librarian.

### BEAUMONT

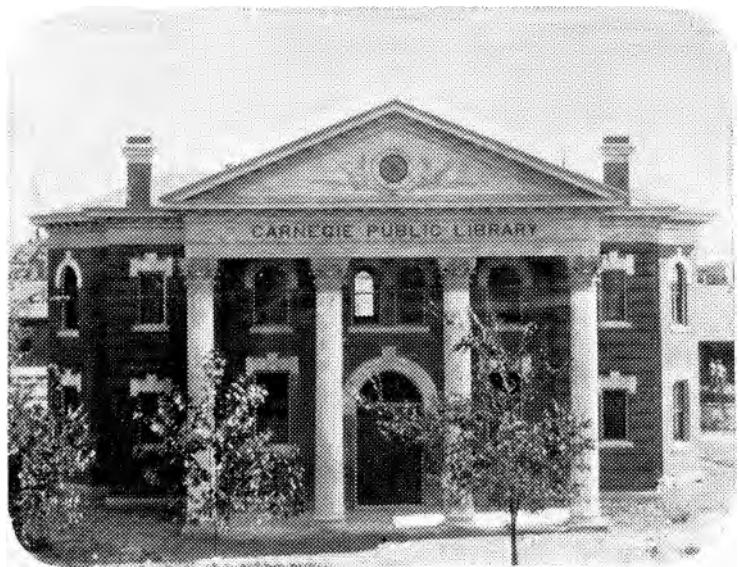
The **Public high school** library numbers 1000 volumes.

The **Woman's reading club** has a library of about 200 volumes; Mrs. Theodore Heisig is librarian. Miss Bell Austin is corresponding secretary of the club.

### BELTON

**Baylor Female college**, founded in 1845. A library of 4500 volumes and 300 pamphlets is maintained by the trustees of the college for the special use of its students and teachers. 15 periodicals are regularly received; the library is open 6 hours daily, except Sunday; and \$150 was spent last year for library purposes. Rev. W. C. Lattimore is president of the board of trustees, and Miss Alma West is librarian.

**Public library.** The Belton public library, organized by the Woman's Wednesday club has been in successful operation for 6 years, having been organized Dec. 26, 1898. Realizing the incalculable value such an institution would be to our city, each member of the Wednesday club donated a book as a nucleus of a public library. The next step was a book reception to which the public generously responded—300 volumes being given. A small room in



BRYAN CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY



CLARKSVILLE. PUBLIC LIBRARY

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the hotel was where the library was first located, and was opened once a week with the Wednesday club members acting as librarian. In a short time we found our quarters too small and decided to ask the business men to assist us in the support of the library, which they did and have continued to do. We rented a room in the business portion of town and secured a good librarian. We then purchased book cases and other necessary equipment and kept open every afternoon except Sunday.

In May, 1900, the library was incorporated. It has always been entirely free, the only charge being a fine when books are kept over the allotted time. The library has an advisory board and a book committee—two very necessary committees.

While the business men have assisted in the current expenses of the library, the Wednesday club has supplied the book fund through the club obligation to contribute \$100 or more each year. 8 magazines are regularly received.

At present we have nearly 2000 volumes and 1000 pamphlets. The registration for the first month after the library was organized was 50—registration for March, 1903, 1250; and the number of volumes and pamphlets circulated last year was 10,363. This speaks for itself. We have on hand \$185 which is to be expended for books in a short time. Last year we received from the city \$266 and from the club \$180.

Some books for children have been bought. The reference books and histories are used by the students and teachers of the public schools, Baylor Female college, and Belton Male academy. Librarian, Miss Emma Lee.

**BONHAM**

**Carlton college** has a library of 1000 volumes.

**BOWIE**

The **Public high school** library contains 1000 volumes.

**BRACKETTSVILLE**

The **Fort Clark Post** maintains a library of 1500 volumes for use of the garrison.

**BRENHAM**

**Blinn Memorial college** library, founded in 1883, numbers 2500 volumes.

The Free public library of Brenham was established in 1901 by the ladies of the Fortnightly club as their special work. From a nucleus of 200 books acquired by a book reception, and the "Merchants Gift Library," the catalogue now records 2000 volumes of clean, pure literature, and about the same number of pamphlets. Upon the reading-room table are found seven leading monthly magazines and two other periodicals. The library is maintained by popular subscription from the public spirited citizens of the town, and occupies two commodious rooms in a brick building located on one of the principal streets, which were the generous loan of the liberal-hearted and much lamented late Col. D. C. Giddings.

By one entertainment the ladies of the Fortnightly club cleared \$49 for the library fund, and now have \$287 as a reserve fund. \$250 was spent on books, etc., last year. The library is kept open by the ladies of the club, in turn, four days in the week, including Sundays and holidays.

This popular institution has become a permanent feature of the town and municipal aid is hoped for in the near future. The executive board: Mrs. E. P. Curry, chairman; Mrs. H. K. Harrison, Mrs. W. H. Eldridge, and Mrs. R. P. Thompson. Books for children are bought, and both pupils and teachers of the public schools use the reference books.

### BROWNSVILLE

St. Joseph's college has a library of 5000 volumes.

### BROWNWOOD

Howard Payne college (~~which~~) dates from 1889 and has a library of 2000 volumes.

Carnegie public library.  
BRYAN

Carnegie public library. Bryan, Texas, feeling the need of a library, the Mutual Improvement Club, composed of twenty enthusiastic women, in 1902 made an earnest appeal to Mr. Andrew Carnegie who donated ten thousand dollars to be used in erecting a Free Public library; the city agreeing to set aside one thousand dollars annually to maintain it. They have a handsome two story building; upper story forming an elegantly appointed hall and club rooms; lower consisting of stack, reading, and toilet rooms,

offices and entrance hall. Furniture and books have been collected by the citizens who have the interest of the institution at heart.

It is the best investment Bryan ever made; interest increases each succeeding month. The number of volumes is now about 2000, the number of pamphlets, about 275. 27 periodicals are regularly received. The library is open 7 hours on week days and 8 hours on Sunday; on holidays it is closed. A card catalogue is being made. Over 1000 volumes were loaned last year for home use. The Mutual Improvement club has furnished the juvenile room, and periodicals and books especially for children are provided.

Last year the city appropriated \$783.33 and from other sources the library had \$1,200. First board of directors: Dr. Raylor, Messrs. McInnis, Law, Saunders, Allen, Mesdames Sims, Howell, Brandon, and Miss Willson. Librarian, Miss Mattie Watkins.

### CALDWELL

The Public high school has a library of 1000 volumes.

### CAMERON

The Public high school has a library of 1200 volumes.

### CHAPPEL HILL

Chappel Hill Female college, founded in 1852, has a library of 1000 volumes.

A circulating library has been maintained since 1893 and now consists of 1004 volumes. Librarian, Mrs. W. R. Campbell.

### CICERO

The John C. French high school has a library of 1250 volumes.

### CLARKSVILLE

Public library. About four years ago a library association was organized, asked for contributions, and met a generous response, both in books and money. A reading room was established and a membership fee of 10 cents charged. Two years ago the New Century club took control of the library, secured a \$10,000 donation from Mr. Carnegie, obtained land, and a beautiful building is now under construction. There are 993 volumes now in the library, and 13 periodicals are regularly received. \$60 was received

last year from the city and \$215.47 from other sources, a part of which is spent for children's books. The library is open 5 hours each week day. Librarian, Miss Edwina Van Dyke.

### CLEBURNE

**Public library.** For the past sixteen years, longer perhaps, there have been efforts of various kinds made by different persons to start a library in Cleburne, Texas; but it remained for Mrs. J. D. Osborne, Sr., to organize the movement which secured for us the beautiful \$20,000 Carnegie Library now in course of construction, and to be completed July 1, 1904.

The Woman's Club of Cleburne was organized April 17, 1901, with the avowed object of obtaining a library. Whereupon the entire membership set to work under the able leadership of their president, Mrs. J. D. Osborne, Sr. The first result was the opening of the Public Library now in operation. Membership in this is now and has always been one dollar a year. There are 1000 volumes, which will be turned over to the new library.

In the summer of 1902 one of the members, Mrs. D. E. Waggoner, now of Dallas, Texas, visited New York and while there succeeded in interesting Mr. Carnegie in our needs. After long and faithful effort to keep up this interest our town received from Mr. Carnegie, through her, a library proposition in the spring of 1903. The citizens then took up the matter, met all the requirements and in due time work began on the building. It will be a free public library and represents the heart's desire, the brain power and actual physical labor of many of our best citizens.

The library is open three afternoons a week and last year loaned 945 volumes for home use. \$250 were the total receipts for the year. A special collection of children's books is maintained. The committee in charge of the library: Mrs. J. M. Ragsdale, Mrs. J. A. Anderson, Mrs. D. E. Waggoner, Mrs. T. F. Fortson, Mrs. S. B. Allen. The librarian, Mrs. T. F. Fortson.

**Public school library.** This is the oldest public library in the city, and was founded in 1886. It occupies a room in the school building and its 1800 volumes are doing good work among the students. Four periodicals are regularly received, and books are loaned for home use. The library is open 8 hours daily. \$62 was received from the city last year and about \$80 from other sources.

The oversight of the library is exercised by the school board together with Superintendent P. M. Fulton and Principal R. J. Hall. Mrs. L. C. Choate is librarian.

**Santa Fe Railroad Y. M. C. A.** library. Organized Jan. 1, 1901, this library and reading room is free to members and to all railroad men. The number of volumes is 770; number of periodicals received currently, 81; number of volumes loaned for home use last year, 3284.

The excellent \$20,000 building occupied by the association is literally never closed, and the library, occupying pleasant rooms on the second floor, may be consulted at any hour of any day or night. New books are occasionally received from the railroad company and books are also purchased from time to time by money from the general funds of the association. All the books are catalogued on cards. Secretary and librarian, Samuel Warr; assistant, Horace Liebe.

### CLIFTON

**Magazine club library.** This is a circulating library of 37 volumes—just a beginning. The Junior Epworth league also has a library of over 400 volumes.

### COLLEGE STATION

**Agricultural and mechanical college library.** The history of this library is a part of the history of the institution itself, which was provided for by state and federal legislation in 1871, and formally opened for the admission of students in October, 1876. The first appropriation of the legislature for the purchase of books for the College was made in 1880, and since then other appropriations for the same purpose have been made at various times. By an act of the legislature of 1903 an annual appropriation of \$1000 was provided for.

At the present the library contains about 12,000 volumes, some of which are United States documents. The others treat of history, biography, mechanics, engineering, mathematics, botany, geology, political economy, mental and moral science, poetry, general literature and reference, and are classified according to Dewey's decimal classification. There are also about 2500 pamphlets. Forty-five periodicals are regularly received. A card catalogue has been completed.

The college is in the greatest need of a separate building for the library, which at present is located in the main college building on the third floor occupying five small, poorly lighted, badly ventilated rooms, no one of which is at all suitable for a reading room, on account of small size and lack of light.

The number of books on hand is by no means sufficient to supply the needs of the college. All of the departments are poorly equipped in the way of technical books, and the yearly appropriation is inadequate to furnish what is really and sadly needed, while the want of a large addition to the works on general literature and reference is keenly felt.

The library is open  $7\frac{1}{2}$  hours each week day, 2 hours on Sundays, and 4 hours on holidays. Books are loaned for home use. Library committee: Professors C. P. Fauntain, N. H. Brown, O. M. Ball and C. W. Hutson. Librarian, Ira Cain.

### COMMERCE

**East Texas Normal college library.** Begun in September, 1889, this library now numbers 5000 volumes and 800 pamphlets. Twenty-four periodicals are received. Six hundred and fifty volumes were loaned last year for home use. The library occupies a room in the college building and is open ten hours daily except Sunday. Receipts last year \$220. Children use the library freely and with excellent results. The library is under the care of W. L. Mayo, M. J. Mayo and E. M. Clark. Librarian, N. A. Coston.

### CORPUS CHRISTI

The public high school has a library of 1200 volumes.

### CORSICANA

**Public library.** Founded June 15, 1901, this subscription library with its 1270 volumes circulated last year 15,000 volumes. It is open four hours daily except Sunday. The Expansive classification is used. Receipts last year, \$1702.40 Governing board: Mrs. Rufus Hardy, Mrs. Eli Fox, Mrs. H. G. Damon, Mrs. J. H. Woods and Mrs. W. J. Gordon. Librarian, Mrs. Mattie Houston.

The Public school library numbers 1200 volumes. Librarian, J. W. Cantwell.

**CROCKETT**

The public high school has a library of 1002 volumes.

**DALLAS**

**Central academy**, founded in 1882, had in 1900 a library of 3500 volumes.

**Patton seminary** has a library of 1000 volumes.

**Public library.** The Dallas Public Library Association was organized on Mar. 31, 1899, at a public mass meeting. The Association was not incorporated, and was composed of all who contributed towards the establishment of a public library at Dallas. The first officers chosen were: President, Mrs. Henry Exall; first vice president, Mrs. K. C. Currie; second vice president, Mrs. J. E. Schneider; third vice president, C. S. Wakefield; secretary, Mrs. George K. Meyer.

At this time there was not a free public library of any importance in the state. Subscriptions were opened, no subscription to be binding, unless at least \$10,000 was suscribed. Five public-spirited citizens contributed \$1000 each. On May 10, 1899, a mass meeting of all women who would actually engage in the work of raising money for the library was called by the president. A large and representative body met in pursuance of this call, the city was divided into districts, and a committee to solicit contributions was appointed for each district. In this way more than \$12,000 was raised. In the meantime the city of Dallas had agreed to donate a lot 50x100 feet, upon which the library building should be erected, and informally agreed to appropriate \$2000 per annum for the support of the library.

An appeal was then made to Mr. Carnegie, by the president of the association, and a statement was submitted to him, showing the interest of the public in the library movement. About this time, the newspapers contained reports of a number of library donations that had been made by Mr. Carnegie, but up to this time none of these had been in the Southwest. In his reply to Mrs. Exall's letter, Mr. Carnegie stated that he would gladly give Dallas \$50,000 for a library building provided a suitable location was furnished for it, and the city of Dallas would agree to appropriate \$4000 annually for the support of the library. At a public mass meeting, on September 21, 1899, Mr. Car-

negie's gift was enthusiastically accepted, and steps were at once taken to comply with his requirements. The charter of the city of Dallas only permitted it to appropriate \$2000 per annum and this was changed by a special act of the legislature.

The plans for the building were selected by public competition and in judging the plans submitted the committee of the library association was aided by Mr. F. M. Crunden, the librarian of the St. Louis Public Library, and Mr. John S. Mauran, a well known St. Louis architect. The plan chosen was that of M. R. Sanguinet.

The lot which had been donated by the city was now found to be entirely too small upon which to erect a \$50,000 building, so it was sold. The association then bought a 100-foot square at the corner of Commerce and Harwood streets, and this being found also to be too small, a lot of the same size adjoining it in the rear, was also bought making the entire lot 100x200 feet, fronting on three streets. The location is an excellent one, on a high point in the very heart of the city. The total cost was \$9525.

The building was begun in October, 1900. The corner stone was laid with elaborate ceremonies on Jan. 16, 1901, and on October 29, 1901, the library was formally opened to the public in the presence of an enormous crowd. It was erected by Sonnefield and Emmins, contractors; M. R. Sanguinet and Carl G. Staats were the supervising architects; Joseph M. Dickson was chairman of the building committee of the library association. Total cost, \$50,097.53. The value of the building, grounds and the furnishings is \$75,000. The style of the Dallas building is classic, of a pronounced renaissance feeling, bold in execution and simple in its lines, and it expresses at a glance the object for which it was erected. The columns and other stone work are of gray Bedford stone and the two front facades of Roman pressed brick, with terra cotta enrichments. It is entirely fire-proof.

The present librarian was elected in June, 1900, and was a member of the committee on selection of building plans. The work of organization was begun in December, 1900, and the library was opened to the public for use the morning of Oct. 30, 1901, with 9949 volumes on the shelves classified according to the Dewey Decimal classification. As Dallas had no library previous to this time these books, with the exception of some 1500 government documents and about 700 volumes given, had been carefully and



CLEBURNE. CARNEGIE LIBRARY



FORT WORTH. WOMAN'S WEDNESDAY CLUB LIBRARY





F. G. BURGESS  
PHOTOGRAPHER

CHURCH  
PHOTO.  
1901



systematically selected. They formed a *library*, though a small one, and not a haphazard collection of books.

The total issue of books for the first 28 months of the library was 190,097 volumes. Registration for the same period 8100 persons. No record is kept of use of books in the building taken from open shelves in the reading or the childrens rooms.

The number of volumes now in the library is 15,000 and the circulation last year was 78,593. 96 periodicals are received. It is open 13 hours on week days; on Sundays and on Christmas, New Year, July 4th, and Thanksgiving it is open 5 hours. There is a complete card catalogue to all books except the United States documents. Receipts last year from the city, \$4000; from rentals, fines, etc., \$1733.05; from special gifts to the book fund, \$2000.

Talks have been given by the librarian to the High school pupils on the use of reference books, and the library is much used for reference work by pupils of all the schools. There is a separate children's room, with an attendant in charge after school hours.

The governing board: Mrs. K. C. Currie, J. M. Dickson, Mrs. H. Exall, E. M. Kahn, M. E. Locke, Mrs. L. McLaurin, Mrs. G. K. Meyer, A. Sanger, Mrs. J. E. Schneider, J. E. Schneider, Dr. S. D. Thruston, C. L. Wakefield. Librarian, Rosa M. Leeper.

### DENTON

North Texas normal college maintains a library of 6000 volumes.

The public high school library numbers 1300 volumes.

### DUBLIN

A library association was organized in June, 1902, by the Woman's Thursday club and the library now has 260 volumes and is open three afternoons each week. Librarian, Miss Ethel Friend.

### EL PASO

The public high school has a library of 2250 volumes.

**Public library.** In the history of a library, which has started from a small beginning and does not owe its existence to a large donation from some one individual the work of some enthusiastic woman, or group of women, can invariably be seen. A man may give a hundred thousand dollars or more in a lump to erect this

kind of memorial to himself, but it takes a woman to give her time and enthusiasm to such a work, and struggle along for years to a final success, and receive no particular credit or reward.

The history of the El Paso Public library is no exception to this general rule, for it was started by a woman and run by women for a number of years. In the fall of 1894, Miss Mary L. Stanton, then a teacher in the city public schools, seeing the need of the boys of her class and some of her classes of a few years before for good reading, undertook the organization and operation of a reading club, to meet their requirements. Beginning with her own private library of about three hundred volumes, she started the club in one of her own rooms in the Sheldon building, now the Sheldon hotel, with a membership of about twenty boys. This arrangement lasted for about nine months, the expenses being paid by the income from a night class taught by the founder, but by the next summer the clamor for the privileges of the club became so great that membership could no longer be limited to boys, so in June, 1895, the bar was removed and membership permitted to all, and a fee of fifty cents per month, or half that sum and one monthly periodical, charged.

Under these new conditions the Reading club prospered, being open three hours a day twice a week, and the key left convenient for members, who came in and returned their books, taking out what they wanted and making a note in a book left for that purpose. In another year the Reading club had become too large for Miss Stanton to manage alone, so five other women were called in to assist. Thus, by a natural process of evolution, Miss Stanton's Reading club was succeeded by the El Paso Public library, and its first board of directors consisted of the founder, Mrs. Leigh Clark, Mrs. W. W. Mills, Mrs. Thos. J. Beall and Mrs. E. Kohlberg. Miss Stanton became president and Mrs. Clark secretary and treasurer. A little later the membership of the board of directors was enlarged, and Mrs. Jas. E. Townsend, Mrs. H. W. Allen and Mrs. J. P. Ramsey added to the membership. Mrs. W. W. Mills resigned and was succeeded by Mrs. U. S. Stewart.

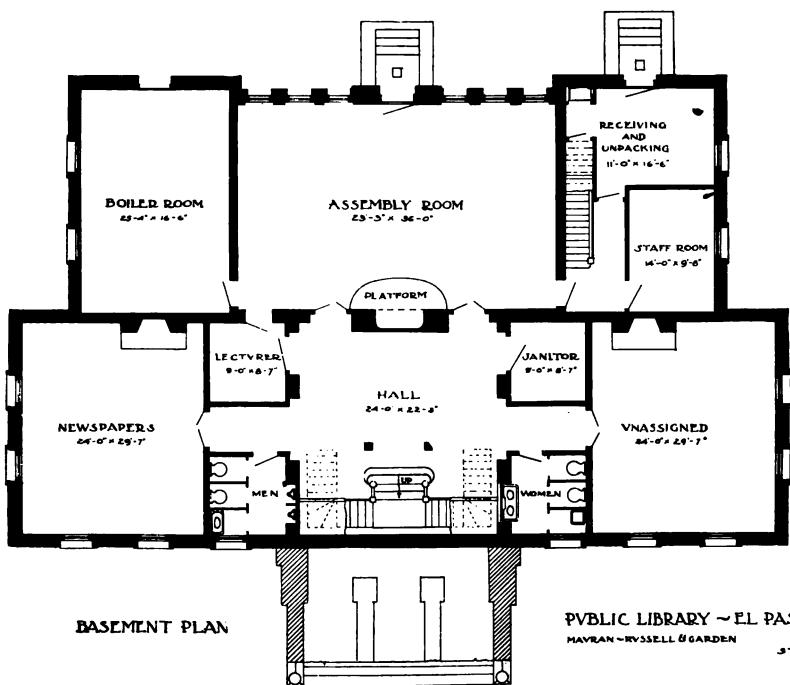
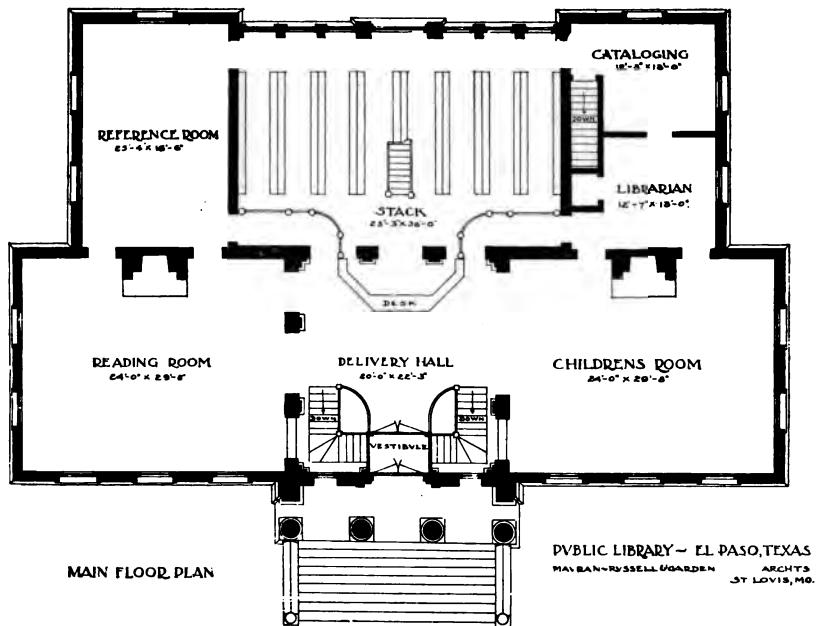
In April, 1897, Mr. L. M. Sheldon, owner of the Sheldon building, gave the use of a larger room, and here the library found a home until, in December, 1899, it was removed to two rooms in



FREE - PUBLIC - LIBRARY  
EL PASO - TEXAS  
MAURAN-RUSSELL-GARDNER ARCHITECTS  
ST. LOUIS MO









the city hall, granted by the council upon a petition from a number of prominent citizens, who had become interested in the work.

Miss Stanton performed the duties of librarian unaided until Mrs. J. H. Jordan was appointed assistant librarian in January, 1899, and the library kept open daily for two hours. It soon became evident that this arrangement of keeping open but a few hours daily was unsatisfactory, and that some one must be found who fully understood library work and could give his undivided attention to the work. Mrs. Ramsey was commissioned to look for such a person on a trip to the East, as no one experienced in that line of work could be found in El Paso. As a result of Mrs. Ramsey's commission Miss Belle F. Read, an assistant in the Kansas City Public library, took charge, and for the first time the library was kept open all day. After one year's service Miss Read resigned, and Mrs. Jordan was appointed to succeed her. Mrs. Jordan also resigned after a year's service, and was in turn succeeded in January, 1902, by Mr. Albert C. Read, the present incumbent, also from the Kansas City Public library.

In 1900, the ladies of the board, seeing the desirability of having business men connected with their institution, decided to enlarge the membership, admitting Mr. Richard F. Burges, William A. Courchesne, Dr. Francis U. Gallagher, Mr. Felix Martinez and Hon. C. R. Morehead. Later Mr. Morehead resigned and was succeeded by Hon. W. W. Turney.

It was on January 14, 1902, that Mr. Carnegie made his splendid offer to the library. In the summer of the year before the board of directors decided to request him to extend to El Paso the aid he had given so many other cities. This matter was put into the hands of a committee consisting of Messrs. Burges and Courchesne, acting with the president, Miss Stanton. A request was drawn up and forwarded, with views and other matters relating to El Paso, to Mr. U. S. Stewart, then in the East, to present to Mr. Carnegie. As a result of this visit, a proposition was made by Mr. Carnegie to the board of directors, that he would give \$35,000 to erect a library building on condition that the city guarantee a sufficient sum for its support, and provide a suitable site. An appeal was made to the city council, who agreed to vote an annual tax of 5.7 mills on the hundred dollars, thus insuring an annual income of \$5000 a year, and to turn over the public square then known as

Buckler square, but re-christened Carnegie square, to the Library association upon which to erect the building.

Upon this action by the council, Mr. Carnegie was notified of the acceptance of his offer, and Mauran, Russell & Garden, a firm of St. Louis architects, who have made a specialty of library construction, were called upon to prepare plans. Accordingly, a member of the firm visited El Paso to see the location, to become acquainted with building conditions and to consult with the library directors upon the subject. As a result of this visit, a set of plans for the new library building in the classic style was submitted and, after a number of changes, was accepted by the board, and a contract for the construction of the building was entered into with Lewis & Hall of St. Louis.

The building is dark gray brick, with stone trimmings, and has a frontage of 88 feet and a depth of 54 feet. It will contain on the first floor a large delivery hall, with a reading room on the south side and a reference room directly back of the reading room; a children's room on the north side and a cataloguing room and librarian's office back of this room. In the center of the delivery hall is the general delivery desk, and back of that a large stack room containing a two-story steel stack capable of holding about forty thousand volumes. The lower floor, which is a half basement because of the terrace which surrounds the building, will contain the engine room, two large unassigned rooms, toilet rooms, janitor's room and a lecture hall to seat 300 people. In this lecture hall will be given free, or nearly free, lectures for children and possibly lectures for grown people later. It it also used as a meeting room for the Woman's club. The building is finished throughout in quarter-sawed oak, and all furniture has been specially built to match.

Up to April of this year the subscription fee of twenty-five cents was charged, but the periodical which was to be brought in addition had not been required since the removal to the city hall. However, as soon as the taxes voted by the council became available, this fee was removed, and the library became free to all permanent residents, non-residents still being required to pay the fee. Prior to this time, and since the employment of a permanent librarian, the library was not self-supporting, but was kept up by monthly subscriptions from the banks, railroads and business men.

A few other donations had beeen made, notably a contribution of \$250 from Mr. Carnegie for a book fund, and a set of the work of Will Allen Drumgoole, donated by the author. The association had also come into possession of some valuable business lots, situated near the Consumers Ice company, through a defunct hospital organization, whose directors turned their stock over to the library association.

The new building was finished and opened the middle of March, 1904. A fumigating device, by which each book will be disinfected before it is returned to the shelf, will soon be installed.

The library now numbers nearly six thousand volumes and 300 pamphlets, and is rapidly increasing. Seventy-two periodicals are received. The circulation during the last eleven months was 16,553 volumes, and since moving into the new building in April the daily circulation has averaged 90 volumes. The library is closed on Sundays and holidays; on other days it is open 12 hours. There is a complete card catalogue and the books are classified according to the Dewey Decimal classification. Receipts last year from city \$5000; from fines, etc., about \$200. For the current year the city appropriation, however, has been reduced to \$3500.

An attractive children's room is maintained, and registration blanks are distributed in the schools. Teachers are given special privileges, and much special reference work is done on subjects being studied in the schools.

Miss Stanton having resigned the presidency a few months ago, owing to press of other business, the personnel of the board of directors now stands as follows: Mrs. E. Kohlberg, president; Grace L. Townsend, vice president; Marie S. Allen, secretary; Fannie E. Clark, treasurer; Margaret R. Beall, Mary B. Ramsey, Mary I. Stanton, Agnes B. Stewart, W. W. Turney, Richard F. Burges, Felix Martinez, A. Courchesne, Dr. F. W. Gallagher. Librarian, Albert C. Read.

### ENNIS

The J. C. Watkins public school has a library of 2500 volumes. Librarian., W. E. Edelen.

### FORNEY

**Woman's Wednesday club library.** Beginning in 1900, this club has sustained a circulating library with a fee of \$1 a year.

cent was fiction and 35.96 non-fiction. The total number of books circulated from the opening of the library, to March 1, 1904, was 138,521.

The young people's room is one of the most popular departments of the library. During the year weekly talks, illustrated by means of photographs and casts, were given by teachers of the schools and members of the clubs of the city. The usefulness of the library has been extended directly to the school children by sending carefully selected books to the different schools, there to be distributed. These books are changed every six weeks. The number of books circulated in the young people's department during the year was 18,652, or 32 per cent of the whole issue; of this 54.27 per cent was non-fiction.

Among the notable gifts that have come to the library are the photographs and art illustrations of the Anna Ticknor Library association, of Boston, Mass., consisting of a collection of about 4100 carefully classified and catalogued photographs, prints, engravings, etc., together with 102 valuable art works.

As it is impossible for the library to provide sufficient copies of the new books, especially recent fiction, for the wants of the patrons, the book committee has decided to try the duplicate book system that has proved such a success in other libraries. The plan is to buy as many copies of the recent books as the library can afford and to circulate them in the usual manner but to supplement it by the purchase of as many additional copies as there is a demand for and to issue them as extra volumes at a charge of 2 cents a day or 10 cents a week. This plan has not been long in force here, but present indications are that it will be very popular.

Besides the librarian, Mrs. Charles Scheuber, there are two assistants, two apprentices, janitor, and assistant janitor.

**The Commercial club**, founded in 1885, had in 1900 a library of 3600 volumes.

**The Fort Worth law library** was begun in 1902 and contains over 6000 volumes. Librarian, W. C. String.

**Fort Worth University**, founded in 1881, has a library of over 3000 volumes.



FORT WORTH. CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY



GEOGETOWN. SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY LIBRARY



**Mrs. Gorman's reading room** was opened September 18, 1886. This private library contains over 5000 volumes and can be used on payment of a membership fee.

**Heathcote library**, founded in 1899, contains 4200 volumes.

**Polytechnic college**, founded in 1895, has a library of 2300 volumes.

**Woman's Wednesday club library.** Founded in 1890, this club library now contains 787 volumes, all catalogued, and is open every day for use by the members. Mrs. F. D. Thompson is librarian and Mrs. Ernest L. Stephens is assistant librarian.

**'93 club library.** The forty members of this woman's club have maintained for their own use a library since 1893, and now have 445 volumes. Mrs. C. O. Harper is librarian and Miss Adalaide Roe and Mrs. Taylor are assistants.

### GALVESTON

**Ball High School library.** This library was established in 1884, a short time after the organization of the present school system in Galveston. At first only a few donated volumes were placed upon the shelves in the library room, but year by year a small collection of choice books has been added until about 1500 volumes and 500 pamphlets now fill the thirty cherry cases almost to their capacity. The funds for purchasing books have been raised from time to time almost exclusively by the pupils of the High school by means of entertainments given by themselves. Mrs. Sarah Ball and the alumni presented a number of handsome pictures.

The library is open 6 hours on each week day, and loaned last year for home use 650 volumes. All the pupils are encouraged to read books named by the teachers and to use the reference books freely. Besides the pupils, the alumni of the Ball High school, and the teachers of the public schools have access to the library. \$75 was spent last year on the library.

The governing board is: R. V. Davidson, H. M. Trueheart, H. A. Landes, I. Lovenberg, John Sealy, E. D. Cavin, J. P. Alvey, Librarian, William A. James.

Rabbi Henry Cohen has a well selected library of 6000 volumes, rich in Hebraica, philosophy, and religion.

**Court of Civil Appeals library.** This court serves a district embracing 54 counties, one of the five in the state. Others are at Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin, San Antonio.

After Galveston county bought Judge William P. Ballinger's law library, the Galveston County Bar association (organized in 1878) appointed a committee which managed this County law library under the authority of the County Commissioners court. The library was turned over to the Court of Civil Appeals by the county when that court was organized in October, 1892. It is purely a law library and is kept in the court building.

The library numbers about 8000 volumes and there is a legislative appropriation of \$500 to \$1000 a year for enlargement. The building is owned and kept in repair by Galveston county for free use of court. Librarian, H. M. Knight, clerk of the court.

**Public library.** The Galveston public library, the first free public library in Texas, was established in 1871 under the name of Galveston Mercantile library. It was founded by the Galveston Chamber of Commerce and supported by volunteer subscriptions of members and public spirited citizens. The library opened in January, 1871, with about 2000 volumes on the shelves. A reading room was also operated in connection with the library. Subscriptions to both reading room and library were \$10 a year, payable in advance. Reading room was kept open from 9 o'clock a. m. to 9 o'clock p. m. every day except Sundays and holidays. The officers of the library for the first year were as follows: Library committee, J. S. Thrasher, James Sorley, John Focke; librarian, Mrs. Emily F. Carnes; Janitor, J. O. Stevenson. The library was located in the Hurlburt building on Post Office street, near Tremont.

The library did not meet with the support which its projectors had expected. After the first year or so the enthusiasm which gave it birth began to wane, subscriptions fell off and finally it was closed for want of patronage. About the year 1881 the books were removed to another building and the library was reopened under the auspices and management of the Galveston Lyceum, a society of young men organized for the intellectual improvements of its members. Among those prominent in the society were Waller T. Burns, now United States district judge; E. D. Cavin, Forster

Rose, Ed. Kauffman, Thos. Conyngton, J. M. Fendley and E. G. Littlejohn. The Lyceum prevailed upon the city council to make an appropriation for the salary of the librarian while it provided for a reading room from its membership dues. Mrs. M. C. Felton was appointed librarian, which position she held for about twenty years. She was succeeded by Miss L. W. Shearer, the present incumbent. The council having made the appropriation for the maintenance of the library continued it and thus established the first strictly free public library in the state.

Several years ago the Lyceum disbanded, since which time the management of the library has been with the city government. In 1892 a catalogue was printed showing the books in the library.

The library now contains 7530 volumes and 2000 pamphlets and circulated last year 16,394 volumes. It is open 8 hours each week day and is closed on holidays. Receipts last year from the city, \$1200. Librarian, Miss L. W. Shearer.

**Rosenberg library.** "All the rest of my estate I bequeath to my executors in trust for the organization and endowment of a free public library for the use of the people of Galveston, together with free lectures upon practical, literary and scientific subjects, and such other incidents to a great public library as may be most conducive to the improvement, instruction and elevation of the citizens of Galveston; and for this purpose they shall cause an association to be chartered with such trustees and directors as they may best deem expedient, under such rules and regulations as will best carry out this devise.

"In making this bequest, I desire to express in practical form my affection for the city of my adoption and for the people among whom I have lived for so many years, trusting that it will aid their intellectual and moral developments and be a source of pleasure and profit to them and their children and their children's children through many generations."

The new library building, representing an investment, with its contents, of \$200,000, and with a permanent endowment fund of \$400,000, erected under the provision of the will of Henry Rosenberg, of which the above is an extract, was on June 22, 1904, dedicated for the use of the public. Nothing can better describe the nature and scope of this legacy than the simple language of the will itself.

After he had gone to his reward Henry Rosenberg, the merchant and banker, was found to have bequeathed, in addition to large legacies to kindred and friends, and in addition to the magnificent library above mentioned, \$80,000 for educational and charitable purposes to his native town of Bilttern, in Switzerland, and a quarter of a million dollars to various worthy purposes in this city.

All of the rest of his wishes have been fulfilled; this last and crowning work, however, has been delayed somewhat longer than had been expected because of local conditions. But in the meantime, the fund, under the prudent and intelligent care of the executors, Col. A. J. Walker and Mr. W. J. Frederichs, has steadily increased by investments, until, at this time, \$200,000 was the sum set aside for the erection, equipment and furnishing of this splendid home of letters and science, while \$400,000 will remain as a permanent endowment, the income of which will amply maintain the library and provide for the purchase of new books and for the other purposes named in the will.

Mr. Frederichs departed this life nearly five years ago, since which time Col. Walker has had the sole charge of the estate.

The organization of this great public institution was well devised to preserve it from all political or personal favoritism or sectarianism. This is done by making the trustees, twenty in number and most carefully selected from among Galveston's best citizens when the association was incorporated, a continuing body, with authority to fill vacancies in their number, thus preserving a full control and supervision of the affairs of the library, as the trustees alone have the selection of the board of directors, who must also be trustees. The original design and policy has thus great assurance of being carried out. At the dedication exercises addresses were delivered by Vice President M. F. Mott, Judge M. E. Kleberg and Honorable Arthur Lefevre, and music was furnished by the St. Cecilia orchestra. The beautiful hall in the new building was crowded with seven hundred of Galveston's most substantial men and women.

There are now about 7000 volumes in the library and this will be increased to about 15,000 as fast as they can be purchased and catalogued. The endowment is sufficient to provide a librarian and five assistants, keep up the ordinary running expenses of the

institution, and in addition to papers and magazines, provide about 1000 volumes a year.

The beautiful and dignified building is probably the best constructed library building in the South. At present there is more room than is needed, it having a capacity of 100,000 volumes. Besides the assembly hall, are several smaller rooms for study clubs, and reading rooms on special subjects; in the basement are public toilet rooms, boiler room, packing room, storage rooms, and a living room for the janitor. On the main floor are the newspaper reading room, the magazine reading room, the general book room, and the large corridor with the registration and loan desk at its west end. For the present the north end of the book room is used for the children's department (1600 volumes), and the west end for the reference department (1000 volumes).

Complete cataloguing for such a library is an expensive and technical work, costing at least 25 cents a volume. The public catalogue is a very brief and temporary author catalogue on cards. Later there will be a complete card catalogue arranged alphabetically under authors, titles and subjects. Within a few months the library of Congress is to print a catalogue of about 8000 volumes that have been carefully selected for a popular library by editors and committees of the American Library association. The library expects to buy the whole 8000 volumes and to be able to obtain a number of copies of this printed catalogue for use in the building.

*Hours open.* The magazine and newspaper rooms of the library are now open to the public on week days (except Thursday) from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.; on Thursdays, 9 a. m. to 9 p. m.; Sundays and holidays, 2 p. m. to 5 p. m. The loan department, children's department and reference department have the same hours, except that these departments are closed on Sundays and holidays. All are invited to make free use of the privileges of the library. All that is required is the customary registration, conformity with the rules, and such conduct in the building as people of good manners everywhere observe in a public building such as a library, a school or a church.

The trustees of the Rosenberg Library association are: A. J. Walker, president; M. F. Mott, vice president; J. P. Alvey, treasurer; I. Lovenberg, secretary; H. A. Landes, John Sealy, Wm. T. Austin, Mrs. Mollie Macgill Rosenberg, T. W. Dealey, C. L. Beiss-

ner, John Goggan, George D. Briggs, F. L. Lee, J. C. League, Clarence Ousley, J. D. Rogers, Charles Fowler and J. F. Smith. The first seven parties mentioned constitute the board of directors. Librarian, Frank C. Patten; children's librarian, Miss Marie Smith.

**St. Mary's University** has a library of 5000 volumes. Librarian, J. J. B. Remy.

The **Texas historical society** was founded in the '70's, and its library of about 200 volumes, 800 pamphlets, and 1000 manuscripts is now deposited in the Rosenberg library. President, John C. Walker; secretary-treasurer, E. G. Littlejohn; custodian, Rabbi Henry Cohen.

The **University of Texas** Medical department library. The library of the medical department of the University of Texas dates from the foundation of that institution in 1891. The nucleus about which the library has grown was formed of books and journals presented by generous physicians of the city of Galveston and by members of the faculty.

As favorable opportunities presented themselves at various times files of medical journals have been purchased. Thus when the medical library connected with the United States army post at San Antonio was sold, quite a number of journals were obtained.

During the first ten years of its existence there was no regular librarian. The work was attended to by the provost of the college and one or two members of the faculty who were interested in the work. The books were classified on the shelves in a general way and each volume had been entered in a large register kept for that purpose.

In 1899 some of the members of the faculty, feeling that each one, personally, could not subscribe to all the medical journals that he wished to consult, organized into a journal club. The journals were kept locked up in one of the library rooms and only members of the club and friends, introduced by members, had access to these.

In the summer of 1901 the board of regents of the University of Texas, recognizing the importance of the library, appropriated \$4000 for the purchase of books and journals and also created the

position of librarian. Since then the books and journals have been classified, accessioned, and a dictionary catalogue has been made. The library has had an annual appropriation and has grown from 2815 volumes to over 5600 volumes and 420 pamphlets. The best medicals journals are subscribed to and are accessible to faculty and students; 81 periodicals, all told, are regularly received.

The library is open 7 hours on each week day, and loaned 918 volumes last year for home use. Dewey's Decimal classification is used. Receipts last year \$2000. The library committee of the faculty: Dr. W. S. Carter, Dr. A. E. Thayer, Dr. William Keiller. Librarian, Florence Magnenat.

**Ursuline Convent library** dates from 1846 and contains about 2000 volumes. About half of library is a collection for the use of academy students, a school being maintained in the building. The convent has large buildings on a ten-acre block in city. Librarian, Sister Mary Ignacius.

**Young Men's Christian Association library.** Established in 1884, this library of 900 volumes has done excellent work for the association members. One hundred and twenty periodicals are received, and the library is open 4 hours on Sundays and 11 hours on other days. Judson B. Palmer is general secretary and librarian.

### GEORGETOWN

**Southwestern University library.** This library was founded in 1873, with the university. From a very small and unpretentious beginning, it has grown slowly until now it numbers 7000 bound volumes, 35 periodicals subscribed for, and 4200 unbound pamphlets. Most of these are gifts from generous friends; others were purchased with the library fees charged each student. At first these gifts were small, but in 1895 the widow of Rev. Homer S. Thrall sent his entire library. Then followed in quick succession gifts from Rev. H. H. Bourland, Rev. Hiram Talbot, Rev. Jerome Haralson, Rev. S. P. Wright. In 1897 Judge Findley, of Dallas, gave the library of his father, Rev. R. S. Findley. This same year E. W. Tarrant gave Bancroft's History, 37 volumes, and gifts were also received from Rev. W. W. Horner, Jno. Williams and others. In 1901-02-03, more gifts came from Rev. G. A. LeClere, and Mrs. Viola Hunt. The latter gave a thousand dollars in cash

to be invested in books. Mr. John S. Pierson, of New York City, gave a missionary department. In 1903 the San Jacinto literary society moved their library from their hall into the general library. This numbers 1000 volumes and is known as the San Jacinto alcove. More recently we have received smaller though valuable gifts from Judge Aldredge of Dallas, Mr. O. P. Staples, Rev. J. R. Mood, Rev. H. B. Henry and others. In 1904 Mrs. W. I. Pritchett gave \$1000 to be invested in books, as a memorial to her husband, to be known as the Pritchett alcove.

The library is open 6 hours on week days, all the books are catalogued and are classified by the Decimal classification. Receipts last year, \$1700. Library committee of the faculty: Dr. H. A. Shands, Dr. W. C. Vaden, R. B. McSwain. Librarian, Mrs. Margaret McKennon.

### GONZALES

**High school library.** In 1896, the teachers of the Gonzales public school, realizing the importance of placing in the hands of boys and girls good literature agitated the question of a school library. As the school had no fund that could be used for purchasing books, we asked for contributions from patrons and pupils. A small sum was raised. This was immediately converted into books; and these, with a few volumes that were already in the possession of the school (the outcome of a similar movement made some years before), furnished the nucleus of what has now become a well established library of 600 volumes.

Each year we ask for a Thanksgiving offering from the children; and this, with fines, is the principal income. The receipts last year were \$55.

Teachers and pupils have access to the reference books at any time during school hours. The circulating library is opened every two weeks, and 300 volumes were loaned last year. Librarian, Rozelle Nicholson.

### GREENVILLE

**Burleson college,** founded in 1896, had in 1900 a library of 1000 volumes.

**Public library.** In 1900 the Review club of Greenville, composed of thirty women, began the initial movement toward a pub-



GREENVILLE. PUBLIC LIBRARY



LOCKHART. DR. EUGENE CLARK LIBRARY







lic library, and in January, 1903, opened a small circulating library of about 200 volumes. In April of the same year Mrs. W. A. Williams, a member of this club, wrote to Mr. Carnegie asking for a donation for a public library building for Greenville. Within ten days she received a favorable reply. The City Federation of Women's clubs, consisting of five clubs, immediately held a meeting and voted to take up the library work, and, together with other women of the town, pledged two-thirds of the amount required to meet the conditions imposed by Mr. Carnegie. The amount and site being secured, a proper ordinance was passed by the city council May 10, 1903.

A few days later at a mass meeting of the citizens the following named trustees were elected: Mayor R. M. Chapman, president; Mrs. Will N. Harrison, vice president; Mrs. W. A. Johnson, secretary; James Armistead, treasurer; R. D. Thompson, Dr. J. W. Garnett, B. F. Looney, W. A. Williams, G. H. Collins, E. Shiff, Mesdames R. M. Chapman, B. F. Looney, J. L. English, W. A. Nesbit and Miss Lottie M. Adams. The contract was let and ground broken in August for a \$15,000 building.

There are 2177 volumes now in the library, and 20 periodicals are received. The books are catalogued on cards, are classified by the Decimal classification, and are much used by the children of the public schools. The library is open 9 hours on week days. Librarian, Margaret Quigley.

### HONEY GROVE

Wall school library contains 3200 volumes.

### HOUSTON

**Houston lyceum and Carnegie library association.** Houston, probably because it is one of the oldest towns in Texas, can lead them all in the priority of its library work. The Houston lyceum was organized in the early forties with the object of securing a library. In 1848 the legislature of the state of Texas granted this association a charter of incorporation under which they could organize and acquire rights. In 1854 this association had a reading room and in 1855 a night school was established under its auspices for young men who were engaged in the day time. In March, 1855, 380 volumes were reported on the shelves and \$100.93

in the treasury. During these years the lyceum was supported by dues, subscriptions and donations of books. The name of General Sam Houston is conspicuous as one of the patrons and donors. This association kept up its meetings until 1860, when its activity was entirely suspended until the close of the Civil war. In 1865 a meeting was called for the purpose of reorganization. In 1877 the use of a large room in the city hall was granted the association by the city council and the books and furniture were taken there from a room in the court house. About this time ladies were admitted to active membership, and this move seeming to give a new impetus to the affairs of the library, it was deemed advisable to have a paid librarian. In 1898 the library was made a depository for the United States government documents. In 1892 it was decided to open the library on Sundays. During the next three years the association met with many discouragements, and as the finances were nearly always low it was decided in 1895 to open the library to the public so that any one by the payment of \$3 a year could have the use of the books without becoming a member of the lyceum. In order to encourage the more general use of the library a librarian was engaged. The location of this library being the most serious drawback to its patronage the Women's clubs of the city in 1898 petitioned the officers of the lyceum to move the library to more congenial quarters, agreeing to raise a large part of the money necessary for the rent. The petition was granted and the burden long borne by the association was divided with the Women's clubs. Under this fostering care the library took a new life and much more interest in its affairs was manifested by the public. It, however, required the constant effort of its friends to keep the association in funds, and in 1899 the Ladies' Reading club led the movement to get an appropriation of \$2400 annually from the city. In this they were successful, but as the city required three-fourths of this money to be spent for books it was still necessary to keep a large paying membership to defray the expenses of administering the library. In the fall of 1899, through the Woman's club, came the glorious gift of \$50,000 from Mr. Carnegie for a library building, provided the city would give \$4000 per year for maintaining it. At a regular meeting of the city council June 18, 1900, an ordinance was passed

making this appropriation and the offer of Mr. Carnegie was accepted.

All the literary organizations of the city formed an organization called the City Federation of clubs for the purpose of securing a site for the library. The lot was purchased in the fall of 1901. It is 75 by 125 feet and cost \$7800. The contract for the building was let in December, 1901, and the corner stone laid with appropriate ceremonies May 1, 1902. The building was finished and formally turned over to the public March 2, 1904.

It is a good example of Italian renaissance and stands on a terrace with broad stone steps leading to the two entrances. Large double doors lead through marble vestibules into a massive rotunda flanked on three sides with large alcoves. This rotunda is crowned with a massive dome. Directly opposite the two main entrances and with full view of the entire building is a delivery desk on a raised platform. On one side of this desk is the cataloguing room with dumb waiter to the basement; on the other side is the librarian's office. Opening behind the delivery desk are double vault doors giving access to the stack room, which occupies the entire width of the back of the building.

This room is constructed, in every respect, like a fire-proof bank vault. It will accommodate 35,000 volumes and will be used principally for valuable reference books. The upper story is similar in arrangement, but has a handsome auditorium over the stack room, which is reached by beautiful marble stairways. The building is constructed throughout of fire-proof materials and is the only building of its size in the state in which all floors, ceilings, roof and dome are entirely and absolutely fireproof. The total cost of this building was \$60,000, the city having given \$10,00 to finish and furnish it.

The exterior walls of the building are faced with gray pressed brick and trimmed with Bedford limestone. The roof is covered with slate over the fireproofing.

The interior is plastered throughout in a rough finish and tinted in water colors, with the exception of the auditorium, which is finished in oil, and the wood work is of quarter-sawed oak, with heavy veneered doors.

The building is brilliantly lighted with both gas and electricity, and is heated with steam.

A friend of the library, and one of Houston's most liberal and public spirited men, Mr. N. S. Meldrum, gave \$6000 in memory of his daughter, to be known as the "Norma Meldrum Children's library fund," and for the purpose of furnishing the Carnegie library with books and periodicals suitable for children from 8 to 15 years of age. According to the conditions of the gift, \$1000 has been used to purchase books and furniture for the children's room in the new building, and \$5000 have been put aside as a perpetual trust fund, the interest of which will be available for the purchase of children's books.

Another very valuable gift has come to the library from a gentleman who does not wish his name to be made public. This consists of nearly 4000 volumes and pamphlets covering many subjects of general interest, and is to be known as the "Circle 'M' collection." There are books relating to China and Japan; a number of books upon the Philippine islands; a large collection upon the subject of slavery and the Civil war; several hundred volumes upon the subject of missions; valuable works on Texas history; an interesting collection of Bibles, many of which are in foreign languages, and a copy of the famous "Breeches Bible," published in 1580. Then there are books in Chinese, Japanese and the Hawaiian languages, several of the Indian dialects and many European languages. This most valuable collection is to be used for reference only, and will be greatly appreciated by the serious readers in our library. Besides these interesting and valuable books, the same gentleman has given us a number of mineral specimens, curios and photographs from foreign lands, paintings, sea and land shells, implements of warfare used in the Philippine islands, and zoological specimens, thus forming the nucleus of a museum which we hope soon to be able to arrange properly and care for.

There are now in the library 10,000 volumes and 500 pamphlets, besides the United States government documents, of which there are over 4000. Among the rare books in the general library might be mentioned the files of early Texas newspapers which date back to 1834, and are most valuable in the study of the history of the state for that period; the reports of the Grand Lodge A. F. and A. M. of Texas are nearly complete from 1856, and contain interesting material on the subject of the history of Free Masonry in Texas.

The books are catalogued on cards and classified according to the Decimal classification. The library is open from 9 a. m. to 10 p. m. every day except Sunday, on which day it is open 6 hours. Seventy-five periodicals are received.

The present board of trustees consists of nine members: Henry H. Dickson, president; John T. Browne, vice president; Charles P. Shearn, treasurer; W. H. Clute, secretary, and Adam Clay, E. P. Hamblen, Mrs. E. Raphael, Miss Mamie Gearing and Mrs. H. F. Ring.

Librarian, Julia Ideson; assistants, Ethel Jones and Max Menger.

**Ladies Reading club. Traveling libraries.** The first traveling library committee, consisting of Mrs. E. A. Holland, chairman, and Mrs. William Christian, decided, with the club's approval, to let the majority of the books in each library consist of good fiction, adult and juvenile. Besides these, room was found for a couple of volumes each on philosophy, natural science and poetry, one on household economics a few adapted to quiet Sabbath meditation (these all non-sectarian) and a couple of files of popular magazines. Having made up our classification, we proceeded to procure the books. Cases of a uniform size were planned, and the first ones were secured as a donation through the efforts of the president of the club, Mrs. P. K. Ewing. Books for the first two cases were donated by our friends in sister clubs as well as our own club members. Thus the work was started. Soon after a portion of the proceeds from a successful entertainment given under the auspices of the club was set aside for the prosecution of this work as needed. This fund is used slowly, for it has been the earnest effort of the library committee to expend the money entrusted to them as judiciously as possible, and to weigh carefully the evidence for and against each book brought under its notice so that no volume unworthy of the club they represent should spread a malign influence abroad under the Aegis of the Ladies Reading club. Feeling their weighty responsibility to their sister club women, they read reviews, study catalogues, seek more critical judgment than their own and in every way strive to select no one book that would have to be expunged by their successors.

Under such circumstances, books are purchased slowly. The committee's correspondence last summer (1902) making up a list

of books to be purchased during the winter (1903), included communications from a dozen of the largest publishing houses and the perusal of fully a wheelbarrow load of catalogues, and a comparison of prices after lists were made. That constituted all the summer vacation these two poor stay-at-homes obtained. During the opening week of this (1903) year's session, the club received regretfully the resignation of Mrs. E. A. Holland on account of her ill health. A new committee was appointed consisting of Mrs. S. Meyer, Miss Cora Root, and Mrs. William Christian, who was made chairman. You will note that the committee is kept small in number. This is because the work by its nature concentrates itself in the hands of the few, if definite results are to be accomplished.

It is the aim of the committee to send the books out presenting a neat uniform appearance, so each book is given a cover of manila paper, cut and pasted; the title and name of author are then lettered on the back in ink. The book is then opened and stamped on the fly-leaf and in several places in book with the following: "Property of Ladies' Reading club, Houston, Texas. Traveling library, No. —." The next process is the writing in of the number of library, then the cataloguing, which records the number, author, title, and whether purchased or donated. The books are then ready to be packed in their case and sent on their travels.

Meanwhile the committee has selected a town or community and placed itself in correspondence with some lady therein relative to receiving and caring for the library for three months. How do we open this correspondence? Sometimes by gossiping inquiry. Sometimes by a line to the postmaster. Acquaintance once established, the library is delivered at the nearest express office, pre-paid, leaving only its carriage to the home of the consignee, which is generally done without charge. Inside each case a list of the books is enclosed and a copy of some simple regulations relating to their care is pasted on the cover. Two keys are provided for each case, one sent by mail to consignee, the other retained by the committee to replace possible loss.

Now as to results accomplished. Eight cases are completed and in circulation. These have visited or are at the following places: LaPorte has had three, Pasadena one, Cypress Top two, Sealy two, Seabrook two, Alameda one, Houston two. The club now owns in

these libraries over 350 bound volumes, 35 numbers of Lippincott's containing copyrighted novels, sold at \$1.50 each in book form, and the following magazines: Munsey two years, McClure two years, Review of Reviews two years, Ladies' Home Journal two, Young Ladies' home journal one, Bookman one, Brown book one. Duplicates and other papers have been given to the County School superintendent for distribution among teachers. We have books on hand for two more cases. Our greatest difficulty is in getting the case made. A library of juvenile works has been donated to the free kindergarten by unanimous vote of the club. A donation of books from Mrs. Purdy for very young children was given to Faith Home for orphans.

Each letter we receive expresses the pleasure derived from our books. LaPorte through the impetus received by this movement has established a town library and a reading club. Sealy has organized a club. The cases consigned to Houston go to a reading circle established in connection with one of our mission churches in the city, the men of which are mostly employed in day-time and find that they can not get the time to come up to the Carnegie library for books, but can run over to the church in their neighborhood and obtain them. They meet once a week and discuss the books they have finished and current events. From Seabrook a lady writes, "We enjoyed the library so much. Please send us another one. The children have been very eager for them. We would like one with more children's books as they thought they were rather slighted before, but enjoyed what they had." From the very northern part of the state comes a request from a small town, that has formed a literary society but has no way of obtaining a library, asking whether we could possibly send them one. We started out with the unwritten law that our own county should be supplied first, but can we fail to answer so direct an appeal? Where a community is ready and waiting for books and we have the books to send, shall we pause because we have not yet established communication with every place in Harris county? It is not as though the books passed from our control entirely. The great care taken of the books and the good condition in which they are returned evinces a high degree of appreciation on the part of the readers. In fifteen months, only two books lost. Coming in constant contact with this work and realizing how fast it

grows and widens out has made the author of this report an enthusiastic advocate of a state library commission.

The Ladies' Reading club has this year decided to extend their work into the rural schools and voted to prepare traveling libraries for the use of the district schools of their own county to the number of twenty before 1904 ended. Fourteen were prepared during this club season and six more will be ready by September first, making plenty in circulation next school term. The school libraries have contained books suitable for grades one to seven, and in each case recognizing the bareness of equipment of the district schools of our state, we have put some volumes of handy reference, some of the many excellent works containing programs for special days, a calendar, a county or state map, and lately mounted photogravures of noted building and scenes, six pictures to a school. Our County superintendent evinced his appreciation of our efforts by personally attending to the carriage and exchange of these cases which remain in a school until they have been thoroughly used and mentally digested.

The **public school library**, begun in 1894, numbers 6916 volumes. Eight hundred and eighty volumes were added last year.

#### HUNTSVILLE

**Sam Houston normal institute.** Peabody memorial library. The building, costing \$12,500, was erected in 1902, though the library was established in 1879. It now contains 18,153 volumes, of which 9759 are text-books, and 4927 pamphlets. It is open ten hours on each week day not a holiday, and 28 periodicals are received regularly. Receipts last year, \$2000. Besides the faculty and students, others may, by special permission, be granted use of the library. Librarian, Ella Smither.

The **State penitentiary** has a library of 3400 volumes, 300 of which were added last year. Librarian, W. T. McDonald.

#### JASPER

**Southeast Texas male and female college** reported a library of 1000 volumes in 1900.

#### KINGSTON

**Calhoun college**, founded in 1885, reported a library of 1000 volumes in 1900.

### LAMPASAS

**Public library.** The library movement in Lampasas was started by the Pierian club, in which the Twentieth Century club joined, and the two gave a book reception on May 1, 1903, where more than 300 books were received.

Then in September, 1903, the Mildred Lee chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy started the work of securing a building. The measure was proposed by Mrs. Sarah Adams.

The other four women's organizations accepted invitations to join in this work, and the Lampasas Library Association was formed of the five societies, namely : Mildred Chapter, U. D. C., Lampasas Lady Orchestra, Twentieth Century club, Pierian Club, and the W. C. T. U.

Subscriptions were solicited from the business men, and \$1100 was secured.

A stock company was formed with W. B. Abney, W. F. Barnes, James Ramsey, W. P. Darby, and James Key as directors. A Board of Lady Managers, two from each club, was elected. Mrs. E. S. Noble, president; Mrs. F. J. Harris, secretary; Mrs. W. F. Barnes, treasurer; Mesdames Fred Burns, J. W. Brooks, W. T. Munger, Frank Mace, Charles Stokes, George Clements, and Milas Little. A two-story stone building has been purchased for \$3000 to be used as library, club rooms, and rest rooms.

They have now on hand 450 books, 150 chairs, and a piano. The home circulation of books last year was about 500. The library is open four hours each week day. The upper floor is used for library, and lower floor for club rooms, and rest room. Lower floor is also rented for entertainments, and considerable income is derived in that way. Thirty dollars was spent on the library last year.

### LAREDO

**Laredo seminary**, founded in 1884, has the Cottie Hogue library of 1000 volmes.

### LOCKHART

**Dr. Eugene Clark library.** This library was founded in 1899 by Dr. Eugene Clark, a young physician who died in New Orleans after having very successfully practiced his profession in Lockhart for several years. The library, according to the terms of the gift,

is a free public library for the use of the citizens of Lockhart and vicinity. It is increasing in usefulness and is one of the most popular institutions of the city. In connection with the library and under the same roof is an elegant and beautiful lyceum auditorium, in which a regular course of lectures and musical entertainments is held annually under the auspices of the "Lockhart Lyceum association." On the second floor, the Irving club, an organization of literary women of the city, have their handsomely furnished club room. The donor especially provided in his bequest for this accommodation to those ladies. The value of the building is \$8000.

There are now 2715 volumes and 600 pamphlets in the library. Eighteen periodicals are received. On week days the library is open nine hours; on Sundays, five. Receipts last year, \$300. Children are encouraged to use the library and books for their special use are bought.

The library is in charge of directors annually elected; they are: William M. Steele, A. B. Storey, J. G. Burleson. Librarian, Edgar H. Rogan.

### LONGVIEW

The **Shakespeare library** had its beginning four years ago in a book social given by the Shakespeare club of Longview, and has been added to from time to time by individual gifts of books and money, and money has been raised by different entertainments by the club and in various other ways until now it contains 1000 volumes and has a home of its own in one room of the city hall. Two periodicals are received. Five hundred volumes were circulated last year. The library is open six hours on week days. Last year the city appropriated \$65, and from other sources \$100 was obtained for the library.

Mrs. S. B. Fambrough, Miss Frances White, and Mrs. G. A. Rogers are the committee in charge. Librarian, Mrs. Fambrough.

### M'GREGOR

The **Public library** was organized in January, 1902, by the Women's club; a book reception was given, and by this means 100 books were received. A room was rented in the business part of the town, was opened two afternoons each week and served by the club members in turn as librarian. Any one could become a library

patron by paying \$1 a year. Concerts and various means were used to raise money to buy books.

A library association was organized in 1902, and members solicited at \$2 a year. The library was made free and is now supported by the membership fees from the association, amounting to about \$200 annually. This, supplemented by money made in other ways, pays the running expenses of the library.

The city council made an appropriation of \$50 a year, which was secured by the ladies, who went to one of the monthly council meetings and asked for it, and secured it by a unanimous vote. We have the co-operation of the school superintendent and teachers, who help in book selection and require their pupils to read some of the books.

With 1100 volumes in the library, the home circulation was last year about 5000, though the library is open only two afternoons each week.

Trustees are: S. A. Cavitt, Mrs. Charles F. Smith, Mrs. J. P. Cunningham, Mr. J. F. Gulleage, Mr. J. P. Cunningham, Mr. W. T. Black. Librarian, Miss Bettie Wright.

### M'KINNEY

**Public library.** The Owl club started the movement for a library and then the other women of the town took it up. It was opened October 6, 1901, and a membership fee of \$1 a year is charged. The rooms are rented by the year, and there are now 511 volumes in the library, largely donated by the Owl club, the Edelweiss club, the Ex-University club, and citizens. The library is open from 3 to 5 on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, and 300 volumes were loaned last year for home use. Two periodicals are received. Receipts last year, \$250.

Directors: Messrs. Jesse Shain, T. W. Perkins, Walter Wilson, E. W. Kirkpatrick, T. F. Mangum, John Church. Dr. J. W. Largent, Professor Jones; Mesdames Lovejoy, T. W. Wiley, Ditto, Fred Emerson, W. L. Boyd, Mamie Dowell, L. A. Scott, B. F. Brydstun. Librarian, Mrs. Josephine Sullivan.

### MARSHALL

**Bishop college** (colored), founded in 1881, added 200 volumes to the library last year; total now in the library, 4000 volumes. Circulation for home use, 2270 volumes.

**Public library.** In the autumn of 1898 the women's clubs of Marshall organized a "City Federation," with "harmony and progress" as watchwords, and the establishment of a public library as the ultimate purpose.

On the 1st day of March, 1900, the "purpose" had materialized, and the library was formally opened with 156 volumes, the result of a book reception, where each guest was required to "register," not only his or her name, but also the title of the "book" donated. If a guest arrived without a book, then a cash donation sufficient to purchase a desirable volume was accepted.

A prominent citizen, whose accomplished wife is an enthusiastic club woman, generously donated the use of two rooms for a period of five years as library headquarters. The rooms were neatly fitted up by the club women and then contributions began to pour in. Two gentlemen donated a dozen chairs, another gave a handsome bookcase. Then came an electric fan with no charge for running it, a water cooler and ice tickets for the entire season, pictures, books, and cash.

Subscriptions were placed at \$1 per annum. The club women serve as librarians, and keep the rooms open three afternoons each week.

The "calendar plan" for securing books was inaugurated, and continued for twelve months, very materially increasing the number of volumes. Entertainments were given by the individual clubs for the purpose of raising funds for the maintenance of the library. Refreshments were served by the club women at two Flower shows.

In the fall of 1902 a grand "Fiesta," or festival of months, was held by the club women, continuing for three days and nights. The success was unprecedented, the net proceeds amounting to \$1589.85.

A handsome lot 120 by 180 feet with a substantial eight-room, two-story brick house was purchased at a cost of \$5000. The property rents for \$40 per month, thus paying 8 per cent on money invested, also insurance and repairs.

The City Federation, as The Marshall Library association, has secured a fifty-year charter for the maintenance of a public library for general educational and scientific purposes.

In the autumn of 1903 another success was scored by the Marshall club workers. A beautiful "Rainbow Féte" and "Baby show"

was planned by the president. The féte continued for three days and nights, and netted the ladies \$1267.50.

The library owns two first-class traveling libraries, which are always wanted somewhere by appreciative people who care for the books, and return them promptly.

Over 300 subscribers are enrolled upon our register. Two thousand (2000) volumes are on our shelves, and each month new books are added. Receipts last year, \$2012.25; circulation, 8028 volumes. The library is open nine hours on week days. President of the City Federation, Mrs. B. F. Eads.

**Wiley university** (colored), founded in 1873, has a library of 5280 volumes and 500 pamphlets. Five hundred and twenty volumes were added last year.

### MEXIA

The **public high school** library, begun in 1890, contains 1600 volumes.

### MIDLAND

**Public library.** The building for the Midland Public library is being erected and will be completed soon.

The first action in regard to a public library for Midland was taken February 18, 1903, by the '99 club. Assisted by the young ladies' "Time and Tide club," and by subscriptions from the citizens of the town, they were enabled to raise \$1550 on the building.

This is but a beginning; still the directors feel that when the building is completed there will be very little trouble in the satisfactory work of lining its walls with the best of books, for our free-hearted, large-minded citizens fully appreciate the importance of a library, and especially its necessity to the wellbeing of the children of the community; therefore, they willingly co-operate in supporting one.

The board of directors consists of the officers of The Midland Library association, together with five other members thereof. Members of the board now serving are: Mrs. C. A. Taylor, president; Miss Lizzie Garrett, vice president; Miss Eula Wolcott, recording secretary; Mrs. B. F. Whitefield, treasurer; Mrs. W. D. Watts, Mrs. Theo. Ray, Mrs. W. H. Camden, Miss Ferrell Lewis, Miss Dolly Flinigan.

**NACOGDOCHES**

The **Cum Concilio** club has, at a private residence, a library of 300 volumes, for the use of members. Librarian, Mrs. Roland Jones.

The **public high school** library contains 1000 volumes.

**NEW BRAUNFELS**

The **Academy** has a library of 1000 volumes.

**OMEN**

**Summer Hill** school library, begun in 1884, reported 1200 volumes in 1900.

**ORANGE**

The **public high school** library contains 2542 volumes.

**PALESTINE**

**Public library.** The first movement towards a public library originated in 1899, with the members of the Self culture club. Mrs. I. S. Dallam, Mrs. G. H. Gould, Mrs. C. J. Grainger, and Miss Kate Hunter may be named as the pioneers in the work, which has been carried to a successful issue.

Later a federation of the city clubs was formed, thus enlisting the services of some of our best women in the work. They called upon the citizens for donation of money and books, receiving \$150, and about 75 books. The city offered the use of two large, light, airy rooms in the city hall; the International and Great Northern R. R. shops gave two large library tables; some chairs and pictures were donated; and on January 10, 1900, the Palestine public library was opened, under the auspices of the Federation of Women's clubs.

Officers serving: President, Mrs. C. J. Grainger; committee, Mrs. G. H. Gould, Mrs. I. S. Dallam, Mrs. Wm. Branagan, Mrs. J. W. Cunningham, Mrs. G. L. Noble, and Miss Kate Hunter.

For the first year the members gave their services as librarian, serving alphabetically, the library being open two days in the week. Since then they have been able to employ a regular librarian, and the library is open from 9 a. m. to 6 p. m. two days a week.

There has been no call upon the public for aid, except in the way of an occasional entertainment. The subscription, at first \$2 yearly, has since been reduced to \$1. A three-months' "vacation ticket" is sold for 50 cents. Two hundred and ninety-one dollars was received last year. The circulation for home use was 5550 volumes.

The library has at present between two and three hundred members. It has increased until there are over 1800 volumes. One room has been set apart for juvenile books, which have been carefully selected.

The present committee is: Mrs. H. R. Moore, president; Mrs. J. W. Cunningham, Mrs. T. W. Smith, Mrs. J. W. Reed, Mrs. A. R. Howard, Mrs. P. W. Brown, Mrs. Bettie R. Furguson, Mrs. G. S. West. Librarians, Bessie R. Furguson, Louise B. West.

### PARIS

The **Female college** reported, in 1900, a library of 1800 volumes.

**High school library.** The trustees of the city schools began this library in 1893, and it now contains about 2500 volumes and 1000 pamphlets. Fifteen periodicals are received regularly. Receipts, \$250, of which \$200 was from the city. Excellent work is done in the library by the pupils. Librarian, Miss Irene Alderson.

### SAN ANGELO

**Public library.** The Woman's club, for the study of literature, was organized about three years ago with ten members. Feeling the great need for books we decided to make an effort to establish a library. To this end a book reception was held at which a goodly number of books were obtained. The Woman's club by means of subscriptions, \$2 per year, and entertainments of various sorts have now about 500 volumes and 20 sections of Globe-Wernicke book cases; they are in the Lee Wilson drug store, and one of the employes acts as librarian for \$5 per month. Only subscribers have the privilege of taking out books: the public may use and read them in the building. It is hoped before long to make it entirely free. It is open all day week days, and from 9 to 12 Sundays. Receipts, \$325.

Executive board: Mesdames Lee, Taylor, and Cunningham.  
Librarian, Lee Wilson.

### SAN ANTONIO

**Carnegie library.** Our present library achievement must be attributed, in no small degree, to the earlier movements for libraries in San Antonio. On October 30, 1872, the Alamo Literary society, having a library of several thousand volumes, adopted plans for a hall to be erected on a lot on Houston street, given by Mr. S. A. Maverick. The hall, unfortunately, was never finished, and its library was scattered. A later and more successful movement, resulting in the Alamo Free library, was inaugurated by some young ladies of St. Mary's church, who got possession of a small room in the back of the church, and began to lend books to all who would pay the small fee required. This proved so popular that larger quarters were soon needed, and a room on Commerce street, next to the Messenger printing office, was taken. The enterprise was kept up by bazaars and entertainments, and later a brick building was secured on St. Mary's street, large enough to enable the management to open a free reading room. In 1897, the monthly fee of 25 cents was dropped, and the library was made free, and so continued until merged into the Carnegie.

During this time another body of enthusiastic women were working along similar lines. In 1892, a small library, in connection with a woman's exchange, was started, and maintained, at first, entirely by donations, and later by entertainments and monthly fees. In 1894, the library and exchange were put in separate rooms, and a librarian appointed. In 1899, the exchange was abolished, and its room occupied as a free reading room. The library had a well chosen collection of books, which, almost from the first, had been classified by the Decimal system, and was known as the San Antonio Public library. Both these libraries received support from the city during the construction of the new building, and when it was completed their books were turned over to the city, forming a valuable collection of about 7500 volumes.

As is always the case, it required constant effort and enthusiasm to keep up these libraries, and it was a day of rejoicing when it became known, early in 1900, that Mr. Carnegie had come to the rescue. On January 27, 1900, Mr. A. W. Houston addressed a letter to the mayor and city council, which was in part as follows: "In behalf of a number of public spirited ladies of this city, I am directed to say: That, at the instance of these ladies, Mr.



SAN ANTONIO. CARNEGIE LIBRARY



SAN ANTONIO. CARNEGIE LIBRARY





Andrew Carnegie, a distinguished philanthropist, has proposed as follows, towit: 'If the city will furnish a suitable site, so that a detached building can be erected thereon, lighted from all sides, he will give \$50,000 for the library building, provided the city will agree, through its council, to maintain said library, free to the people, at a cost of \$5000 per year.' "

The donation was accepted on February 5, 1900, and after much discussion and delay it was decided to locate the building on Market street, corner of Presa, on a large lot generously donated by the Kampmann estate. In September, in response to offers of premiums for plans, a number were received. The architects chosen for its construction were J. Riley Gordon Co. and Harvey L. Page. The building, erected under the supervision of the city council, is designed in the style of the Italian renaissance, buff brick, with stone and galvanized iron trimmings, and cement columns. The north extremity of the building is the stack room, 27x48 feet, cement floor, three stories high. Entrances on either side of the stack room lead into the library proper, a room about 81x73 feet, with galleries, and dome above supported by large Corinthian columns. This with the stack room, librarian's office, and cataloging room, occupy the whole floor. The room is lighted by 38 windows and by a like number in the galleries above, and from an art glass skylight immediately over the loan desk.

The interior woodwork is pine, stained dark; and a pleasant effect is given by the straw-colored walls and ivory white ceilings. Wide iron stairways lead up to the galleries from either side of the entrance to the stack room. The gallery is at present unoccupied, but affords space on the south side, if cut off by folding doors, for an assembly hall, seating 300 people. On the first floor, through a glass door on the south side, access is had to a large circular balcony overlooking the San Antonio river. Janitor's quarters, heating apparatus, lavatories, etc., are provided for in the basement. The stacks, tables, loan desk, and chairs, were furnished by the Library bureau. From the loan desk under the dome, a good view may be had of all parts of the room, newspaper and periodical racks, open and reference shelves, and children's department, as well as both entrances. It presents a remarkably open, airy appearance; and great freedom is allowed for the use of books in all parts of the room. The usual partitions, enclosures, notices of

rules, etc., are conspicuous by their absence. Public documents, unbound periodicals, duplicates, etc., are kept in the stack room.

The library is governed by a board of fifteen trustees, ten gentlemen and five ladies, appointed by the mayor, with the advice and consent of the city council. In the revised charter of the city, a tax of 2 cents on the \$100 valuation is collected for the support of the library. This fund can not be diverted to other purposes.

The library is exceedingly fortunate in having received two valuable donations, one an endowment of \$10,000 from Mr. G. Bedell Moore, in memory of his wife; the other, a cash donation of \$5000 for books, from Col. G. W. Brackenridge. These funds are used for standard works, other than fiction, and the library has been enabled to get, at the start, many valuable works that otherwise could not have been procured in years. Numerous other donations have been received, including a choice collection of curios from the Philippines, the gift of Dr. W. F. James.

The library is provided with an up-to-date typewritten card catalogue and other appliances necessary for its proper administration. Current accessions published in the daily papers, bulletins and lists of books on current topics prepared from time to time, and reference work done for schools and clubs are rapidly increasing the influence and patronage of the library. Its reception has been most cordial, and if the first year's work is indicative of the future, its permanent success is assured. Its management is anxious to aid in the movement looking to the advancement of the library interests throughout the state.

The southwest corner of the main room has been fitted up for the children. Here may be found carefully selected, attractive books and periodicals in which they are interested. Books in this department have red labels and are loaned as other books. Children are always welcome.

Number of volumes now in the library, 11,000, classified by the Decimal classification. Pamphlets, about 2000. Eighty-eight periodicals are received. From June 15, 1903, to March 1, 1904, the circulation for home use was 42,635 volumes. The library is open  $12\frac{1}{2}$  hours on week days and 4 hours on Sunday afternoon; it is closed on holidays.

Board of Trustees: E. H. Terrell, president; W. B. Seeley,

secretary; Dr. M. J. Bliem, treasurer; Mrs. D. H. Ainsworth, Wm. Aubrey, F. H. Bushick, Mrs. Thos. Conroy, T. D. Cobbs. Mrs. H. P. Drought, Mrs. E. Hertzberg, Theodore Harris, Mrs. H. D. Kampmann, M. D. Monserrate, Wesley Peacock, Arthur Rochs. Librarian, Benjamin Wyche; assistant librarian, Agnes Edwards; cataloguer, Mary E. Kaighn; assistant, Bessie H. Snodgrass; night assistant, Arthur Snodgrass.

**St. Louis college**, founded in 1894, has a library of 1000 volumes, 200 of which were added last year.

**St. Mary's college**, founded in 1853, has a library of 3000 volumes and 1000 pamphlets. One hundred and twenty-five volumes were added last year.

**San Antonio Female college** has a library of 1300 volumes.

### SAVOY

**Savoy college** reported in 1900 a library of 1200 volumes.

### SEGUIN

**Guadalupe college.** The Brooks library numbers 4500 volumes and 500 pamphlets. Seventy volumes were added last year. Income \$400. Librarian, David Abner, Jr.

### SHERMAN

**Austin college**, founded in 1850, has a library of 6000 volumes, of which 200 were added last year. Receipts, \$200. Librarian, D. F. Eagleton.

**North Texas female college** library, begun in 1885, numbers 1000 volumes and 800 pamphlets. Receipts \$200. Librarian, E. Louise Strother.

The **public high school** reported in 1900 a library of 1200 volumes.

**Public library.** The Shakespeare club of Sherman organized a Public library June 1, 1901; and turned over to the city their own library of books with one thousand dollars in money raised for a city library.

There are now more than one thousand volumes, standard works of literature, history and fiction.

The directors of the Public library conducted it successfully for two years with a paid librarian but last October the Board failing to act any longer or to furnish any means for its support the Shakespeare club assumed control, holding the books in trust for a Public library.

The books are in rooms furnished by the club. It is hoped that the city will soon do something toward securing a building and placing the library on a creditable basis. Library work has been the special work of the club, and the members are still doing what they can.

#### TAYLOR

The **Public library** was organized in 1900 by Misses Doak and Woodall and Mrs. Vernon Doak. The object was to keep up with the best recent books. To do this an initiation fee of one dollar and monthly dues of twenty-five cents were imposed. The library was called Public, that is, it allowed any one agreeing to the requirements to join.

The past three years three hundred and fifty volumes have been purchased. The library association owns its own furnishings and owes nothing. It has at present forty members. Two thousand volumes were loaned last year for home use. Receipts \$70.75.

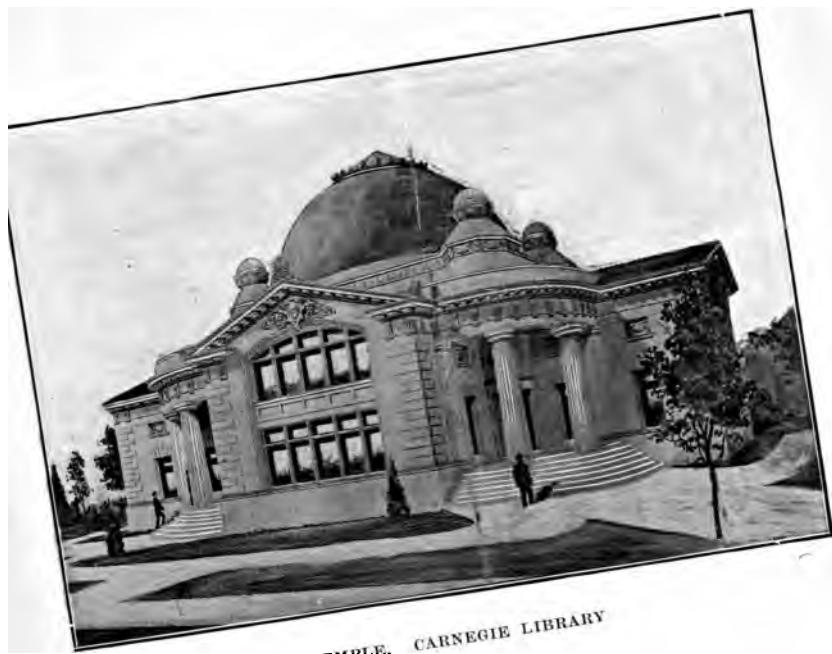
Those who have the library in charge are: Mrs. D. F. Smith, president; Mrs. V. Doak, vice president; Miss Elizabeth Doak, secretary and treasurer.

#### TEHUACANA

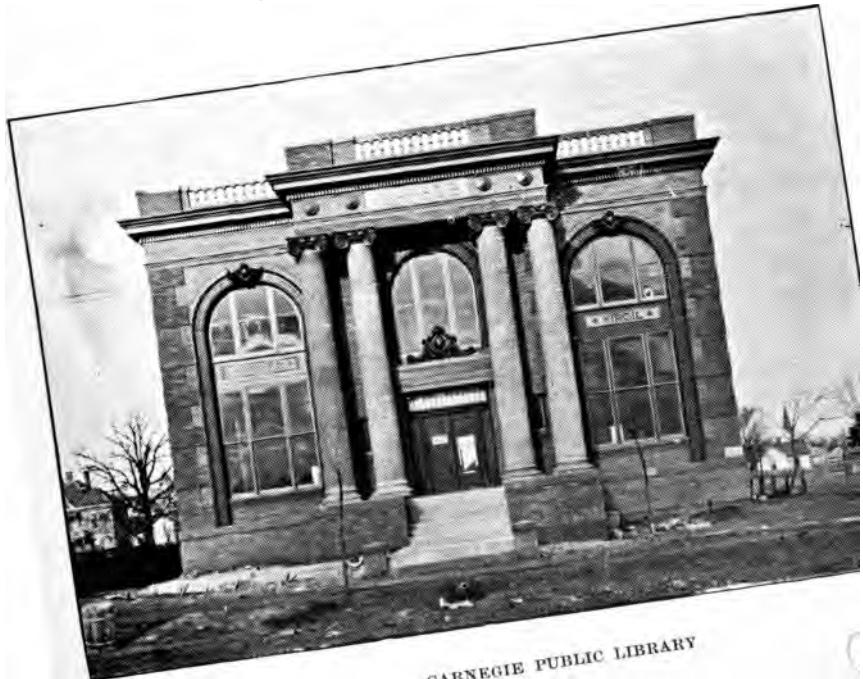
**Trinity university** in 1900 reported a library of 5000 volumes and 1000 pamphlets.

#### TEMPLE

**Carnegie public library.** Through the efforts of the City Federation of Women's clubs a donation of \$15,000 for a library building was secured from Mr. Carnegie in 1902. Previous to this time, however, the Self culture club and the city federation owned libraries, but the City Federation of Women's clubs, through Mrs. Banks, the president, secured the donation from Mr Carnegie. They then called a meeting, to which the public was invited, for the purpose of forming a library association with a legal status. This association elected a board of managers. The corner stone



TEMPLE. CARNEGIE LIBRARY



TERRELL. CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY



of the building was laid December 30, 1902. The original cost was to have been \$10,000, but Mr. Carnegie having added \$5000 to his former gift and \$2500 being received from the bondsmen of the first contractor (who failed to carry out his contract), the total cost of the building, finished and furnished, amounted to \$17,500. The library contains 1400 volumes, besides government documents, and the books are catalogued by the Decimal classification. The library is open 7 hours each week day.

The members of the board are: Mrs. W. S. Banks Mrs. J. M. Young, Miss Lucy McGregor, Mr. F. F. Downs, Mr. W. S. Banks, Mr. G. E. Wilcox, Mr. J. B. Nunnelly, Mr. J. E. Harvey, Mr. W. O. Cox, Mr. J. D. Crow, Mrs. C. M. Good, Mrs. K. A. Orgain, Mrs. J. M. Bass and Mrs. L. N. Chattin. Librarian, Miss Jo Cater.

The public high school has a library of 1500 volumes.

The Y. M. C. A. Railroad department has a library of 1100 volumes.

#### TERRELL

**Carnegie public library.** February 3, 1903, the city council was waited on by a committee of club women of Terrell asking the city to appropriate \$1000 a year, necessary to procure the gift of a library and building from Mr. Carnegie. On March 6th they passed the ordinance making the appropriation. Seven hundred and fifty dollars was raised by public subscription to buy a lot, which was purchased April 15th. The cornerstone of the building was laid September 29, 1903, and the completed library was opened to the public March 15, 1904. The building is of brick and stone and two stories high; the upper story containing a handsome auditorium furnished with chairs and a piano, and having seating capacity of 300. There are also two club rooms, which, rented by the year to the City Federation of clubs, bring in an acceptable income.

There are now 1350 volumes and 400 pamphlets; 53 periodicals are received. The library is open seven and one-half hours on week days and three and one-half on Sundays, and a separate children's room is maintained. The books are classified by Cutter's expansive classification and are catalogued on cards.

The governing board: T. R. Bond, chairman; S. M. N. Marrs; Mrs. O. F. Walton, Mrs. Matthew Cartwright, Mrs. J. A. De Gaugh,

Oscar Price, Robert L. Warren. Librarian, Mrs. A. E. Alexander; assistant, Miss Leda Shook.

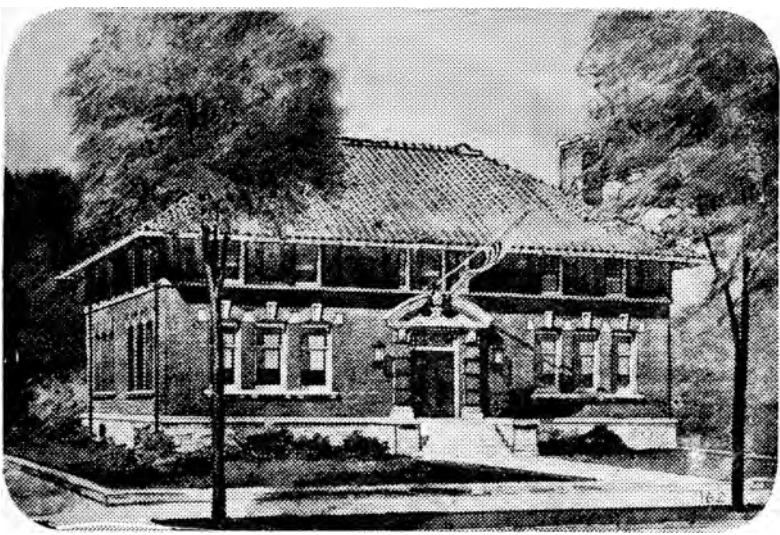
### **TYLER**

**Public library.** The Tyler Carnegie library will probably be opened by September 1, 1904. Its forerunner, known as the Tyler public library, began its existence April 1, 1899, in the law office of Mr. Charles V. Johnson, with 235 books, maintained and controlled by the Tyler Federation of Women's clubs. It has ever since been under the auspices of the women's clubs, though largely supported by the monthly subscriptions of public spirited business men. During the five years of the library's life it has been greatly used by the citizens, and has been of special service to the public school teachers, pupils and women's clubs. The circulation for 1902 was 8399 volumes, and for 1903 was 8549 volumes from a stock of 3400 volumes to approximately 400 subscribers. This does not convey an idea of the reference work done in the library every day.

At the solicitation of the Tyler library board, Mr. Carnegie, on March 20, 1903, agreed to give \$15,000 to erect a free public library building if the Tyler city council would agree to maintain it at a cost of not less than \$1500 per year. The city accepted the proposition on May 4, 1903. The lot, costing \$2000, was bought by the citizens and presented to the city. The building is of rough limestone and gray pressed brick, with overhanging roof of red tile. It is planned to shelve comfortably 12,000 books, and is so arranged that it can be administered by one librarian. The second story is a small lecture hall, with stage and dressing rooms. The auditorium will seat 200 people.

The library is open six hours on week days. Dewey's Decimal classification is used, and there is a complete card catalogue of the books. That the children are well cared for in Tyler public library may be readily seen by reading the article by the librarian, Miss Sawyer, on "The Children's Room." Teachers in the public schools are given extra privileges.

Board of trustees: Mrs. E. H. Potter, president; Mr. A. E. Judge, vice president; Mrs. C. B. Epes, secretary-treasurer; Mr. J. B. Mayfield, Mr. Hampson Gary, Dr. C. A. Smith, Dr. F. M. Bell, Judge J. M. Duncan, Mr. Rufus Beaird, Mrs. J. Lipstate, Mrs. J. A. Brown, Professor J. L. Henderson. Librarian, Miss Mary Sawyer.



TYLER. CARNEGIE LIBRARY



VICTORIA. BRONTE LIBRARY





### VICTORIA

**Bronte library.** In the month of April, 1899, an invitation was issued by the Bronte club of Victoria, Texas, to the citizens of the place and to their friends in neighboring towns to attend a book reception to be given at the opera house on Tuesday, the 11th, from 8 till 11 o'clock p. m. Accompanying the invitation was a modest request that each guest bring a book to help fill the library shelves.

The response was all that could be desired. At the close of the entertainment the Bronte club was the grateful recipient of nearly 400 volumes, mostly standard works. To these were added the volumes which had constituted the private library of the club. A room was rented and in a very short time the library was opened to the public. The number of subscribers gradually increased, as also the interest in the work. To add to the funds for the purchase of new books, afternoon lunches were given in the vestibule adjoining the library room on the days that the library was open. Generous donations of books and magazines have attested the growing interest. Subscribers are added every library day, and where fifteen books were used a day in the beginning, forty and fifty now go out.

The need for funds to put in a new system of classifying, to print a new catalogue, and to add to the reference, historical, and biographical departments is pressing upon the committee now. There are 1116 volumes and 600 pamphlets in the library, and the home circulation last year was 3841 volumes. Six periodicals are received; the library is open three hours on Tuesday and Friday afternoons. One corner of the room is for children and children's books.

The library committee: Mrs. Peticolas, Mrs. Carsner, Mrs. Dupree, Mrs. Donaldson, Mrs. McIntosh, Miss Junior Rosborough, Mrs. Barden, Mrs. Pool, Miss Minna Ray Levi, Mrs. F. B. Shields. Librarian, Mrs. A. B. Peticolas.

### WACO

**Add Ran university** reported, in 1900, a library of 3600 volumes.

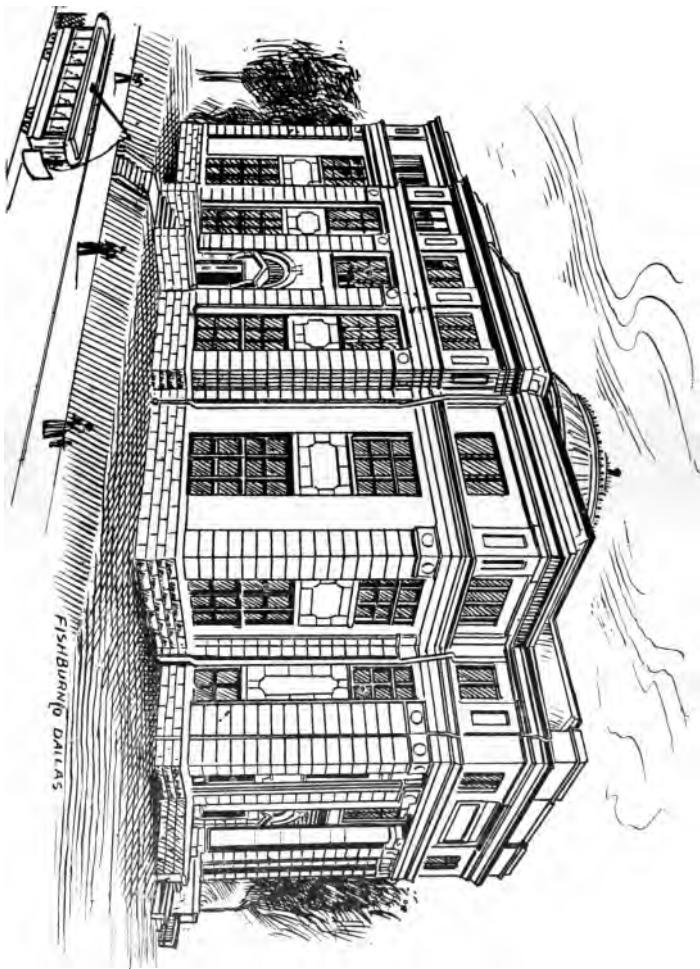
**Baylor university library.** In order to understand the history of the library it is necessary to know something of the history of the school itself. Baylor University was founded at Independence, Texas, in 1845. It remained there until 1886, when it was united

with Waco University at Waco, which had been founded in 1861 by Dr. R. C. Burleson, formerly president of Baylor. The date of the beginning of the library does not appear in the records at hand. The first mention made of it in the catalogue is in that of 1854, which states that "the University is supplied with a small but well selected library. . . ." Among its earliest benefactors was the first President of the Republic of Texas, as will be seen in the following from the catalogue of 1855: "The honorable Sam Houston has added (for the present) his large and well selected library, which affords peculiar advantages to young men."

The first recorded purchase of books was in 1858. Quoting from the catalogue of 1857: "Between \$300 and \$500 worth of books are ordered from Boston and New York to increase our present library." The catalogue of 1858 mentions the purchase of "these (which) consist mostly of standard authors in belles lettres, history, and science, and will afford ample facilities for the investigation of such subjects as the student may desire in those departments of knowledge." Not much more definite information is obtainable concerning the early history of the library, but it evidently held as important a place in the life of the school as was the case of most incipient libraries in the institutions of that period. That it continued to grow is certain. The report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education for 1870 gives 1500 volumes for Baylor University and 650 volumes for Waco University. In the report for 1871 Waco University makes no returns, but Baylor University is credited with 2500 volumes. And this growth was large when account is taken of the fact that in 1861 President Burleson and the faculty resigned and established Waco University, thus dividing the support that would have otherwise gone to one library, at a time when the country was sparsely settled and was experiencing all the financial, political, and moral vicissitudes resulting from a devastating war. In 1888, two years after the schools were united—or rather, re-united—forming Baylor University at Waco, Texas, the library contained 941 volumes. The library from 1886 on was a continuation of the library of Waco University; no books were added from Baylor at Independence.

The most effective library work that was done from this period on down to 1903 was that done by the literary societies. Some time in the seventies the Philomathesian and Erisopian societies had

WACO. BAYLOR UNIVERSITY LIBRARY





WACO. BAYLOR UNIVERSITY LIBRARY







WACO. WOMAN'S CLUB, TRAVELING LIBRARY



WACO. CARNEGIE LIBRARY





begun to collect books. The catalogue of the Philomathesian library for 1880 contains 236 volumes. The theological society and the two societies for girls soon began to form libraries. Though there was much useless duplication in forming five libraries and much misdirected effort by the lack of expert guidance, still the very work of selecting, buying, and cataloguing the books gave the students—for every student was a member of a society—a drill in handling books that was equalled in but few schools of that time. And the sacrifices made by the boys and girls in order to raise sufficient money to keep their library ahead of those of their rivals, taught them the money-value of books and stimulated many of them to use these books because of a sense of personal ownership. And, finally, had this work not been done by students, it could not have been done at all, so over-worked were the teachers and so hard-pressed was the school for funds during these years.

Not only did the societies surpass the University in the collection of books, but they were the first to adopt modern methods of classifying and cataloguing them. In the summer of 1901 the Philomathesian and Calliopean Society libraries, having been consolidated, were classified according to the Decimal system, and a dictionary card-catalogue was written. During the following session a library scholarship was raised and a librarian was selected for the year. In this year the Adelphian (theological) library was classified. The faculty and the leaders of the societies had long recognized the gain that would come from coöperative library work. This year witnessed the first effective cooperative work, namely, raising a fund by the three boys' societies and the University for the purchase of Poole's and the Cumulative Indexes to periodicals and the A. L. A. Index to General Literature. A little thing it would seem, but it was the beginning of a bibliographical collection, which is now one of the most useful collections in the library. Not only did this mark the beginning of the work of collecting bibliographies and indexes, but the use of the latter led to the collection and preservation of files of the more important magazines, with the result that now the Library has a medium-sized and rapidly-growing collection of bound magazines. (For several years the societies had subscribed for some of the best magazines, but no effort was made to preserve them, and these were soon lost or de-

stroyed.) The work of classifying and cataloguing the University library was also begun in 1902.

But no great progress was made nor could be made either in arranging or utilizing the library resources of the school while they were divided into six libraries and scattered over four floors in two buildings. And to make matters worse, in several instances the room in which the library was located was also used for a recitation room. A most important event in the history of the library was the laying of the cornerstone of the F. L. Carroll library and chapel on March 3, 1902. This was the dawn of a new era in the housing and in the enrichment of Baylor's library.

The F. L. Carroll library building was completed in the spring of 1903, at a cost of about \$75,000. The building is a handsome structure of pressed brick finished in stone. The first floor is the library proper, the second floor containing the chapel. The library has a floor space of 9583 square feet, and by using stacks two stories high, it will shelve 200,000 volumes. The windows are plentiful, extending almost to the ceiling. Permanent stacks have not yet been put in. The temporary stacks now in use are arranged in radial order, so that the librarian, from the delivery desk in the center, has a view of every alcove. Because of this students are given free access to the shelves. Whether free access will be continued experience will determine, but for the year the slight loss that has come from theft and mutilation of books has been offset by the greater good that the students have received from the library because they were able to come in direct contact with the books and to learn how to use them.

The circulation, 2800 volumes in six months, is gratifying when account is taken of the fact that none of the books were arranged on the shelves in the new building until after school opened in September, 1903, and that many of them have not yet been classified and still fewer catalogued; and also that, because of its advantages as a quiet reading room for nine and one-half hours every day, perhaps ten times as many books are used in the library as are borrowed for home use.

During the years of the activity of the society libraries very few books were added to the University library. Some of those in the University library were even turned over to the societies. The collections made by the societies, though not evenly rounded or ex-

tensive, were well selected for student collections, and contained some valuable works. They contained, in all, 5789 volumes. From 1901 large accessions were made to the University library. The first was the library of the late Professor J. S. Tanner, containing about 1000 volumes, which was especially strong in philosophy and religion. The library of Rev. J. B. Link, numbering 438 volumes, was this year given by his widow. In the fall of 1902 the Erisophian society gave its library. Before the end of the term the other societies had also donated theirs. Dr. R. C. Burleson's entire library of 1069 volmes was given by Mrs. Burleson. Numerous other books have been added by purchase and gift.

The most important single collection so far formed are the Philosophical collection, composed largely of books from the libraries of Professor Tanner and the Philosophical club, the books for which Professor Tanner had selected; the Tanner mission collection, perhaps the best collection of its kind in the Southwest, most of the books for which are the gift of the Mission band of Baylor; and the Boggess mathematical collection, now numbering 114 volumes, costing \$387.61; the money for these was given by the wife and old students and friends of Professor Boggess, who was professor of mathematics in Waco and Baylor universities until his death in 1891. During the present session \$100 has been subscribed by students in the department of English for the purchase of reference books for their use. The library has purchased and will soon secure from Mr. J. J. Carroll, of Camden, his collection on ornithology, which is said by specialists to be the best collection on Texas ornithology in existence.

Anyone, whether connected with the school or not, may use the library, when properly introduced. Students and investigators are invited to visit it and examine its collections on their subjects. Number of volumes now in the library, 13,085; pamphlets, 7015. Seventy-two periodicals are received. Free use of the library is granted to the teachers of Waco public schools and to the members of the graduating class of the high school. Librarians, J. E. Surratt and Odo Surratt.

**The Douglas Schuler school** has a library of 1250 volumes.

**Paul Quinn college** (colored), has a library of 1000 volumes.

**Public library.** On Friday, April 22, 1898, in response to a call

from Mrs. D. C. Botinger, twenty-three women met in her parlors to discuss plans for a library organization. The result of that meeting was the formation of a permanent library association, with the following officers and directors: Mrs. W. D. House, president; Mrs. D. C. Botinger, vice president; Mrs. Waller Baker, treasurer, and Mrs. J. R. Ferrell, secretary. The directors were: Mr. E. Rotan, Mr. I. A. Goldstein, Mr. J. T. Davis, Col. Wm. Prather, Mr. W. T. White, Rev. Frank Page, Mr. C. C. McCulloch, Mr. Kirksey, Mrs. H. Seley, Mrs. William Cameron, Mrs. William Clifton. An annual fee of \$1 was required of the members, and committees were appointed to solicit books and members. The work did not meet with the success it merited, for, at the annual meeting, the treasurer reported only \$266 as a result from a lecture, soliciting committee, and membership fees. At this meeting Mrs. Botinger was elected president; Mrs. House, vice president; Mrs. Bain, treasurer, and Mrs. Ferrell, secretary, and on Friday, December 15, 1899, the association opened its first home at 114 N. Eighth street with a book reception, which was very successful. The second annual meeting, April 22, 1900, found the library in a neat cottage with nicely furnished reading rooms, a paid librarian, 298 members, and 1050 books, which had been classified and shelved by the Dewey system. At this time it also had to its credit at the banks, \$752, the result of membership fees, rent of rooms to the various clubs, and entertainments. At this meeting no change was made in the officers except that Mr. Goldstein was made president, and the third annual report proved conclusively that the association was a success. Mr. and Mrs. Rotan had established a children's corner by donating 128 books, which Mrs. Lehr supplemented with 150 volumes. This proved very popular, and the book committee, in ordering new books, added constantly to the children's corner. Thirteen thousand two hundred and seventy-four volumes were circulated that year.

Many entertainments, especially among the clubs, were given, everyone responding readily, and the balance in the savings bank had grown to \$1692.84. In March, 1902, the city agreed to give \$600 annually towards the support of a *free* public library, and steps were at once taken to obtain the necessary legislation for a Carnegie library and the purchase of a suitable site. The city charter had to be amended in order to give an annual appropria-

tion, and in May, 1902, the city council authorized the expenditure of \$3000 per annum for the support of a library costing \$30,000, provided that the call was not made before January 1, 1904. In September of 1902, a lot on the corner of Twelfth and Austin streets was purchased by the association for \$4500 cash.

On March 2, 1904, Independence Day, the cornerstone of a most beautiful building, the gift of Andrew Carnegie, was laid with appropriate ceremonies, and by the 1st of October, 1904, we hope to be in our new home.

The most remarkable feature of the Waco Public library association is the fact that it has never been in debt, and from the first has had a steadily increasing bank account. It has some of the best business men in Texas and some of the most energetic women to work for its upbuilding, and, in consequence, its growth has been steady and sure.

April 22, 1904, the close of the sixth year, finds the association in a healthy condition, working very hard for money to buy books for the new library. The city of Waco is in hearty sympathy with the work, and prospects are brilliant for continued prosperity.

Number of volumes now in library, 3000; pamphlets, 500. Circulation last year, 10,950. Twelve periodicals are subscribed for. The library is open seven hours on week days. Receipts last year, \$4131.53, of which \$600 was from the city.

The following directors have served through the year: Mr. I. A. Goldstein, president; Mrs. W. D. House, vice president; Mrs. J. R. Ferrell, secretary; Mrs. R. M. Bain, treasurer; Mr. Edward Rotan, Mrs. D. C. Botinger, Mrs. J. W. Hale, Father J. P. Clancy, Dr. W. O. Wilkes, Mr. W. K. Hoffman, Mrs. J. W. Riggins, Mr. Charles Boynton, Mrs. E. E. Thompson. Librarian, Miss Eva Harris.

**Texas Christian university**, founded in 1879, has a library of 3600 volumes, 575 of which were added last year. Income, \$730. Librarian, Mabel G. Crosse.

**Woman's club traveling library.** The impetus which inspired the formation of the first traveling library in Texas came from Wisconsin, where Senator Stout, of Dunn county, established, perhaps, the first traveling library in the West, and a commission was appointed by the Wisconsin Legislature, of which Mr. Frank Hutch-

ins was chairman. It was from these two generous gentlemen that Mrs. Edward Rotan obtained the literature and facts which guided Mr. Rotan in the choice of the books presented in October, 1898 to the Woman's club of Waco for the first traveling library in Texas. Mrs. Rotan also attended the biennial meeting of the General Federation of Women's clubs at Denver for the especial purpose of hearing Miss Stearns read a paper upon this subject. She met Miss Stearns, and they discussed the subject for hours at a time. The Texas Federation of Women's Clubs, at Tyler, adopted a resolution, largely formulated by Mrs. Rotan, and read by Mrs. Terrell, of Fort Worth, which resolution furnished the basis upon which was built the constitution for not only the Carnegie library at Waco, but many other libraries throughout the state. The literature obtained from the Wisconsin commission was passed on from Waco to San Antonio, and by the club there to Marshall, where, also, traveling libraries have since been conducted. The 600 volumes bought by Mr. Rotan were arranged in sixteen portable book-cases made of Texas pine, finished in hard oil, furnishing a shelf capacity of about forty-five volumes each.

A committee, of which Mrs. H. C. Lindsey, from the Woman's club, was the chairman, accepted the burden of establishing the circuit, which is limited to the villages and districts of McLennan county. This committee, guided by the pamphlets from Wisconsin and by the advice of the donor, carried on an extensive correspondence with the school teachers through the county with the result that the sixteen cases were all placed, some in the custody of school teachers and some with residents. In only a few instances have our cases met with other than a cordial reception. One encountered the opposition of a minister who preached a sermon against the use of profane literature in general, and these books in particular. The books range in matter from grave to gay, with much that is suitable for the young. There was some complaint at first that the literature was too good for people without a college education. We have not heard this of late. In 1901 the addition of about 150 books and the rearrangement of the books in the cases by the chairman, Mrs. W. O. Wilkes, added fresh interest.

Owing to various reasons, we have but one of the original custodians on our list, Dr. Ralph E. Conger, of China Springs,

whose office is the library. He has personally supervised use of the books during six years. Others have, however, re-mained upon our list for several years at a time. In 1901 the fee was reduced from one dollar and transportation one way, to fifty cents and transportation one way. In many instances the custodian sees to the transportation both ways. The home station has always been the parlor of the First National bank, of which Mr. Rotan is the president.

We have been asked to donate books to a library in process of formation at Elk, and have sent a few volumes to struggling libraries in far-distant states. Each volume is labeled with our tag, and each case bears upon its back, in heavy type, "The Traveling Library of the Woman's Club of Waco, Texas." A blank book is also provided each case for the use of the custodian in keeping an account of the books loaned.

The Y.M.C.A. library, begun in 1885, numbers 3050 volumes, of which 200 were added last year.

### WAXAHACHIE

**N. P. Sims library.** Mr. N. P. Sims, the founder of "The N. P. Sims Library and Lyceum," was born August 15, 1806, in Hanover county, Va. His grandfather, William Sims, was colonel of a regiment of Americans soldiers in the Revolutionary war. His father, John Sims, moved to Maury county, Tenn., in 1811, where N. P. Sims spent his early boyhood, and manhood, days. He settled in Ellis county in 1850, where he spent his remaining days, an honored and respected pioneer citizen, to the day of his death, May 24, 1902. His first wife was Miss Amanda Zollicoffer, cousin of Gen. Felix Zollicoffer. His second marriage was to his first cousin, Mrs. Eliza Dunlop. Mr. Sims was a man of strong and determined will, and of sterling integrity. He left no children. He assisted several of his old negroes in procuring good farms. The sum of about \$65,000 he donated by will to found "The N. P. Sims Library and Lyceum."

The library building will cost \$28,000, and will be built of Tiffany brick, a glazed or enameled brick, of gray color. The reading rooms, stock room, and reference room will be on the first floor. The directors' room, art room, and assembly room will be on the second floor. The assembly room will seat 450 and the stage

will have a beautiful arch and settings. The building will be heated with hot water. About ten thousand volumes will be purchased to begin with. Under the will of Mr. Sims, O. E. Dunlap, S. M. Dunlap, his step sons, and G. H. Cunningham are nominated trustees for life, and there is provision for perpetuating the board.

The public school library started in 1897, contains 2500 volumes.

Trinity university has a library of 5000 volumes.

### WEATHERFORD

The Hughey and Turner school library was begun in 1903 and contains about 650 volumes. Four periodicals are received. A library fee of \$2 a year is charged each student.

The public high school library, begun in 1885, contains 3000 volumes.

Weatherford college, founded in 1889, reported in 1900 a library of 1542 volumes.

### WHARTON

New Century library. At a meeting held November 15, 1903, by special invitation at the home of the delegate of the New Century club to the Federation, the club resolved that they would undertake the establishment of a public library.

A book reception was first proposed; but after investigation there were found very few suitable books for sale in the town. In order that the club might be the recipient of good standard works and at the same time make money for the library, a book bazaar was determined on, which was held the week before Christmas; Mrs. Hughes as chairman with the entire club as a committee were appointed. The profits on the sales were \$83.55, which purchased the nucleus of the library; a book reception soon followed at which a number of good books were donated.

The work was beginning to assume proportions and a home was needed. The next step taken was the appointment of the following committee: Mrs. C. M. Hughes, chairman; Mesdames McKnight, R. A. Armstrong and Rosa F. McCamly, with the power of drafting by-laws and making all necessary arrangements for a Library association, a work which lasted three months. A few

books and \$83.55 are scarcely enough with which to open a library; some means had to be found for meeting expenses. Knowing Wharton's weakness for excursions, an entertainment was planned along this line, excellent facilities for taking care of the tourists were provided and many took advantage of the opportunity to circumnavigate the globe. In this work a number of ladies not members of the club assisted by representing the different countries. The proceeds fully compensated for the work and time expended. Then followed a hypnotic entertainment under the management of Mrs. Frank Hodges. In order that a library table and a book case might be bought the chairman tendered a Martha Washington tea and secured means for both. These entertainments with a few donations placed to the credit of the board \$144.20, out of which membership tickets and rules were to be printed and book cases bought, to say nothing of furnishings for the club room. In the selection of books the work was most arduous. Lists were considered many times and cuts made, as the greatest good to the greatest number and the amount of available money had to be considered. First attention was given to American literature. Next was English, German and French; the field was vast, time limited and money wanting, yet a number of wise selections were made; then came the mute appeals from childhood, twenty volumes were selected; twenty-one volumes of modern fiction were chosen and \$11.70 was expended for magazines.

The pertinent question arose as to what was to be done with them. Mr. C. M. Hughes, a member of the Masonic lodge, suggested that perhaps the Masons would assist in the work. The suggestion was no sooner broached to Mr. L. Peine, W. M., than permission was granted the committee to use the ground floor of the Masonic Temple for a library. Membership tickets were then sold and a day set aside as "Library Day." On March 23d the club room and library were formally opened and on the following Wednesday the library board of officers were elected; their first act was to throw open the doors for the benefit of the school children.

By the influence of Mrs. Rosa F. McCamly the board secured Father Kirwin to lecture, and this brought together a cultured audience as well as swelled the funds. By the sale of memberships and collection of fines a small sum had accumulated which was used to buy several histories and biographies; yet there was lacking

an encyclopedia, and in order to raise funds to purchase one, an ice cream supper was given by the board assisted by the chairman of finance committee, Mrs. J. A. Sanders, and followed by the organization of a Dramatic club by Mrs. Hughes. "Diamonds and Hearts" was played to a well-filled house, and the proceeds went towards a payment on the encyclopedia.

An effort was made to keep the library open one evening during the week; there was not sufficient interest manifested and the plan was abandoned. The library after the many vicissitudes of fortune can boast of three hundred volumes, as many old magazines, three book cases, a library table, blackboard, maps, pictures, chairs and a piano, loaned by a member, Mrs. W. O. Victor. Eleven periodicals are received regularly. The work has been entirely under the management of the board, but has been greatly facilitated by the sympathetic interest and assistance of the president of the New Century club, Mrs. R. B. Huston.

On Tuesday afternoon, the librarian, secretary and treasurer open the library from 4 to 6, at which time they issue books and periodicals, collect fines and attend to all other business which arises. Receipts last year \$463. Children are frequently invited to the library. Librarian, Mrs. C. M. Hughes.

#### WHITEWRIGHT

**Grayson college** library, founded in 1886, contains 5000 volumes and 600 pamphlets. Librarian, J. F. Anderson.

#### WICHITA FALLS

The **Ladies library association** maintains a library of 1000 volumes. Two hundred and fifty volumes were added last year. Receipts \$400. Librarian, Juliet Williams.

## THE CHILDREN'S ROOM

BY MARY SAWYER

Librarian Carnegie Library, Tyler, Texas

In planning our library work, we give most prominence to its foundation stones—provision for the needs of boys and girls. Too often this department is thought of not as the foundation, not even as an essential part of the main building, but as a sort of architectural ornament to be extended or curtailed as whim or circumstances determine.

These things ought not so to be. Provide for the children *first*, secure for them in the initial purchase 50 per cent of the appropriation for books, 25 per cent in all subsequent additions. Quixotic, you say? Study your library records and see which department has the largest number of individual readers and the highest per cent of circulation. Follow a little farther into results that can hardly be tabulated and see which department gives most encouragement, most substantial return for time and money spent. And, thirdly, if you can get at the facts, compare the class of reading of the men and women who were "library trained" children with that of people who had no such advantage.

Of course the 50 per cent asked for is not wholly or chiefly stories for children, which is the first thing thought of when we speak of children's literature. It means the best cyclopedias, reference books, bound magazines, travels, poems, books of natural science;—the best literature of all countries and all time chosen with special reference to children's needs, bound with the two objects of attractiveness and durability, illustrated profusely and truthfully, by artists, not by apprentices.

It means also duplicating these treasures over and over and over again so that when 20 children want to read Arabian Nights, or Robin Hood, the librarian may not have the pain of facing 19 disappointed, woebegone faces, having given her only copy to the first comer. If you have only 300 books, you are richer with twenty copies of one classic than with twenty different books only fairly good.

Children are like Dr. Holmes in one thing, when they want a

book they want it "as a tiger wants its prey." Put in as many duplicates as your conscience will permit and then add as many more, is a safe rule for most buyers.

Insist upon careful handling even if it requires Spartan methods, and then let the children have free access to the shelves, perfect liberty of choice, abundant time to weigh and consider.

As for the librarian's part in the final selection, she may need to efface herself altogether, or to be an annotated table of contents for each and every book under examination. Children never want dictation but they welcome discussion. Their librarian must not only know the best authorities in questions of fact that she may not mislead by giving a prejudiced history, or an untruthful book of travels, but she must know also the style and tone, literary and moral, of all the books on the children's shelves. No part of her training is more important than this, and if necessary she must "contend earnestly for the faith" when careless or economical book committees would buy cheap trash, sensational or sentimental as the case may be. No faulty bricks in the foundation!

Take or make time for a story hour each week. In no other way can lasting impressions be more easily made. It will also help you to find out individual preferences. No reader is so hopeless as the one who want "just any good book!" His class should be eliminated. Every child can be interested in some special field. It is our first business to wake him up if he is too sluggish to know what he wants.

Make lists—and in some cases collections—of local interest, flowers of the neighborhood, woods, birds, butterflies. The boys and girls are invaluable helpers here and one list made *by* them is worth a dozen cut and dried and presented *to* them.

Lastly, have definite hours for the children to use the library. Their rights must be fully considered but because they need and deserve special attention they should not encroach on the time of adults—who also have rights. In a small library, unless this is carefully arranged, the comfort and convenience of the grown people is seriously affected.

#### AIDS FOR CHILDREN'S LIBRARIANS

The number of book lists prepared to aid librarians in selecting the best literature for children's shelves increases every year, and

they are greatly prized by those of us who are far from book centers and therefore cut off from the privilege of ordering on approval. Many books are retained in our small Texas libraries that would be rejected through use of such lists. Make any sacrifice rather than keep such books in the juvenile class. Whether bought or given, throw out undesirable books and duplicate, duplicate, DUPLICATE the best.

The following list of helps, a brief number from many that might be cited, includes those that are found of practical use in one Texas library, and are therefore heartily recommended to others. In selecting one must steer carefully between the Scylla of interesting but inferior books and the Charybdis of excellent dull ones. Many compilers have been engulfed in Charybdis, but we will head our list with the pioneer who has always been a safe pilot through that perilous strait.

*Hewins, C. M.* Books for boys and girls. Boston. Lib. Bureau. 10 cts. Annotated.

*Moore, Annie Carroll* List of books recommended for a children's library, comp. for Iowa Lib. Com. Des Moines, Iowa. 10 cts. Invaluable for all children's librarians. Particularly helpful to those starting a new library in indicating proportion and values.

*Buffalo Public Library* Class room libraries for public schools listed by grades. Buffalo Public Library. 31 cts. Graded list with alphabetical subject index. The careful analytical work of this subject index makes the Buffalo list one of the most practical helps the children's librarian can have.

*Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh* Graded and annotated catalogue of books for the use of the city schools. 50 cts. Very comprehensive, with excellent annotations. The Dewey numbers are given with all classed books, making the volume a valuable aid to cataloguers.

*Cleveland Public Library* References for third grade teachers. Compiled by M. H. Prentice. A convenient handbook for work with the younger children.

*N. Y. State Library, Albany* Selection from the best books of the year. Published annually. 10 cts. Annotated list of 250 books published during the year and recommended to public libraries.

*Wisconsin Free Library Commission* Suggestive list of books for a small library. Madison, Wis. Free Lib. Com. Free. Supplemented by Buying lists of recent books. Compiled by the Commission and obtainable as above.

*Carnegie Lib. of Pittsburgh* Contemporary biography. Compiled by Agnes M. Elliott. 25 cts. Very useful in work with schools.

*A. L. A.* Co-operative list of juvenile fiction. One of the best, if not the best; thoroughly trustworthy.

*Newark, N. J. Public Library.* List of 1697 books for young people.

*Burt, M. E.* Literary landmarks. Boston. Houghton. 75 cts. Suggestive in directing systematic reading.

*Baldwin, James.* Book lover. McClurg. \$1. Contains full lists of standard works. Classified under general subjects.

*Public Libraries* Library Bureau. 156 Wabash Ave. Chic. Published monthly at \$1 per year is, of course, an indispensable tool for every librarian, and I wish we might all overcome the delusion that *The Library Journal* at five dollars is beyond our reach. It is false economy to deprive the small libraries of the help and inspiration of its regular visits.

## ESSENTIALS OF A GOOD LIBRARY LAW\*

BY FRANK C. PATTEN

Librarian Rosenberg Library, Galveston, Texas

The modern library movement is embodying ideas that are yet to make public libraries about as common as public schools, and correspondingly important in educational value. After a generation of most remarkable growth of public libraries, in number, size, and recognized usefulness, experience can now enlighten us in regard to plans of library support and organization. The best interests of the movement are served by embodying the results of this experience in law. Such a law, by setting forth a good plan, encourages the establishment and promotes the growth of these popular educational institutions.

### OUTLINE OF A GOOD LAW

The following outline (with explanatory notes) embraces the important provisions of a good state library law:

1. *Establishment and maintenance.*—Authorize the governing body, in connection with the voters of any city, town, county, school district, or other political body that has power to levy and collect taxes, to establish and maintain a public library for the free use of the people. Provide also for joint establishment and maintenance, for aiding a free library with public money, and for contract with some existing library for general or special library privileges. Provide for maintenance by regular annual rate of tax. Authorize special tax or bonds to provide rooms, land, or build-

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\*Adapted from a chapter in John C. Dana's *Library Primer* published in 1890.

ings. Provide that on petition of 25 or 50 taxpayers the question of establishment, rate of tax, and bonds shall first be decided by vote of the people at general or special election, to be changed only by another vote. It is believed that there need be no limit to the rate placed in the state law, as a community is not at all likely to vote to tax itself too high for library support. The people of a small place will, in fact, often fail to realize that in order to raise money enough to accomplish their object the tax rate must be higher than in a large place. It is not impossible that communities will, by and by, spend about as much in support of their public libraries as in support of their public schools.

2. *Management*.—Establish an independent board of trustees and place the management wholly in its hands. Constitute the library a public corporation, with power to acquire, hold, transfer, and lease property, and to receive donations and bequests. Secure a permanent board with gradual change of membership, the number of members to be not less than three, and the term of office certainly to be not less than three years.

In order to remove public management from the influence of party politics, the library and its property should be wholly left to the control of trustees selected from citizens of recognized fitness for such a duty. Ex-officio membership in a library board should generally be avoided, especially in case of a small board; fitness for the position alone should be considered. Experience seems to show that in cities the proper board of trustees can best be secured through appointment by the mayor and confirmation by the council. It is a good way to provide for five trustees, one to be appointed each year for a term of five years. This number is large enough to be representative, and small enough to avoid the great difficulty in securing a quorum if the number is large. The length of term in connection with gradual change of membership encourages careful planning, and it secures the much needed continuity of management and political independence. And yet there is sufficient change of officers so that the board will not be too far removed from the public will.

3. *Miscellaneous*.—State the purpose of a public library broadly, perhaps in the form of a definition. Make possible the maintenance of loan, reference, reading room, museum, lecture, and allied educational features, and of branches. Prescribe mode

for changing form of organization of an existing library to conform to new law. Impose penalties for theft, mutilation, overdetention, and disturbance. Provide for distributing all publications of the state free to public libraries.

It is probably most convenient to have the library year correspond with the calendar year. It is well to have the trustees appointed and the report of the library made at a different time of the year from either the local or general elections. The library is thus more likely to be free from the influence of party politics. To have a library treasurer is probably the better plan, but library money may be kept in the hands of the municipal treasurer as a separate fund, and be paid out by order of the board of trustees only.

Libraries for school rooms, to be composed of reference books, books for supplementary reading, class duplicates, and professional books for teachers should be provided for in the public school law. School funds should be used and school authorities should manage these libraries. The business of lending books for home use is better and more economically managed by a public library, having an organization that is independent of the school authorities.

4. *A state central authority.*—Establish in the capital city of the state or elsewhere a central library authority with supervisory powers to be the head of the public library system of the state. Let it be the duty of this central authority through its executive officer, whenever asked, to give advice and instruction to the libraries of the state in planning, constructing, remodeling, and equipping buildings and rooms, and in organization and administration; to receive reports from these libraries and to publish an annual report; to conduct class instruction in library science at its headquarters and library institutes at convenient points throughout the state; to manage a system of traveling libraries; and to manage the distribution of state aid to encourage the formation and promote the growth of local libraries.

Within a few years each of several states has provided for a state library commission, to be in some sense the head of the public library system of the state, as the state board of education is the head of the public school system of the state. By having small traveling libraries of 50 or 100 volumes each, to lend for a few months to committees that have no libraries, and by having a

little state aid to distribute wisely, the central library authority is able to encourage communities to do more and better for themselves in a library way than they otherwise would. Such a library center has proved to be a useful agency wherever established and the plan seems likely to spread throughout the country. In Wyoming the income from a large area of state land forms a library fund. It would seem probable that other states will provide a public land fund in order to help support this general work. By far the most complete and successful state system that has yet been organized is that of New York, where all authority centers in the state library at Albany as headquarters, but without a commission. In some states the best center for this general library work, either with or without a state library commission, is the state university library. Good library work is first of all educational and the state university, being the crowning feature of the educational work of the state, is a natural library center.

#### ESSENTIALS OF A GOOD LAW

The three most essential things to be provided for in a good state library law are:

1. A sure and steady revenue.
2. Careful and stable management.
3. A central library authority.

In attempting to amend laws or make new ones these essentials should be kept clearly in mind, but special conditions peculiar to each state dictate modifications of any general policy. Any one interested in the matter could read the general articles upon the subject in the Library Journal, in the Reports of the United States Bureau of Education, etc., and study the various state laws, and then, with the assistance of the best legal talent to be obtained, frame an act appropriate to the conditions of his state. The laws of New York, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Washington, and Ohio are among the best.

#### PROPOSED LAW FOR TEXAS

The following bill, drafted by Hon. A. P. Wooldridge, chairman of the legislative committee of the State library association, will, if approved by the Texas Federation of Women's clubs, be introduced into the next Legislature:

**A BILL****TO BE ENTITLED**

**An Act to create and establish the Texas Library Commission, and making an appropriation therefor.**

**WHEREAS,** There is a growing interest in the dissemination of wholesome literature, and in the establishment of traveling and free public libraries in Texas; and,

**WHEREAS,** There is no organization charged with the encouragement and wise direction of this great educational work; therefore, *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

**SEC. 1.** That the Texas Library Commission is hereby created and established.

**SEC. 2.** That the Governor of the State of Texas shall, with the advice and consent of the Senate, nominate and appoint five persons to be known and designated as "Texas Library Commissioners." These commissioners shall be appointed for the period of two years, and they shall serve without compensation. The commissioners, at their first meeting (to be convened by the Governor), shall elect a chairman, chosen from one of their number. They shall also elect or appoint a secretary, and from time to time such other agents or officers as the interests of the commission may require. They shall receive, deposit, and safely keep the books, documents and other library property of the State in such place or places as they may deem safe and convenient and as they may be able to procure.

**SEC. 3.** That it shall be the duty of the Texas Library Commissioners to collect and disseminate throughout the State of Texas useful and appropriate information concerning the organization and conduct of free public libraries. They shall from time to time print and distribute lists of books suitable for the use of libraries and individuals. They may, when their ability and opportunity permit, establish or advise and assist in the organization and direction of free traveling libraries. They may receive and administer donations in the interest of public libraries. They may also, as their ability permits, collect, distribute and permanently keep at convenient central points in Texas the public documents issued by the State of Texas and its several departments, and it is made the duty of the State

Printing Board to furnish to the Texas Library Commission as many as one hundred copies of such printed public documents if they so request. They shall make a biennial report of their transactions to the Governor and Legislature of the State of Texas, and submit in said reports such recommendations for legislative and executive consideration as their experience may suggest, and the library interests of the State shall require.

So much of the law creating the Department of Agriculture, Insurance, Statistics, and History as places under the jurisdiction of that department the branches of statistics and history and the custody and control of books, curios, and public documents now in said Department of Agriculture, Insurance, Statistics, and History is repealed, and the possession and control of said books, curios, and public documents are hereby transferred to the Texas Library Commission.

SEC. 4. That there shall be and is hereby appropriated for the expenses of the Texas Library Commission the sum of \$3600 annually for the fiscal year ending August 31, 1905, and \$3600 for the fiscal year ending August 31, 1906.

#### NOTES

The American Library Association is the national organization of library workers in this country. Its object is to promote the welfare of libraries in America, and in addition it aims:

1. By organization and force of numbers to effect needed reforms and improvements, most of which could not be brought about by individual effort.
2. By co-operation, to lessen labor and expense of library administration.
3. By discussion and comparison, to utilize the combined experience of the profession in perfecting plans and methods, and in solving difficulties.
4. By meetings and correspondence, to promote acquaintance and *esprit de corps*.

Since its organization in 1876 it has, with but three exceptions, held annual meetings; the following table shows the date, place and attendance of the last five conferences:

1899—May 9-13, Atlanta, Ga., 215.

1900—June 6-12, Montreal, Canada, 452.

1901—July 3-10, Waukesha, Wis., 460.

1902—June 14-20, Magnolia, Mass., 1018.

1903—June 22-27, Niagara, N. Y., 684.

1904—October 17-22, St. Louis, Mo., —.

The annual dues are \$2 for individuals and \$5 for libraries; each member receives a copy of the annual proceedings. Inquiries concerning the A. L. A. may be addressed to the secretary, Mr. J. I. Wyer, Jr., University of Nebraska Library, Lincoln, Neb.

**State library commissions.** Until Texas has a library commission it will often be necessary for library workers in this state to ask for information from other states; such a request, accompanied by a stamp, usually brings to us printed matter which is a real help. The name and address of each state commission follows:

Colorado State Board of Library Commissioners: C. R. Dudley, president, Public library, Denver.

Connecticut Free Public Library Committee: Miss Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public library, Hartford.

Delaware Free Library Commission: Cornelius Freear, secretary, State library, Denver.

Georgia Library Comission: Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Carnegie library, Atlanta.

Idaho Free Library Commission: Mrs. E. J. Dockery, secretary, Boise.

Indiana Public Library Commission: Miss Merica Hoagland, secretary, State House, Indianapolis.

Iowa State Library Commission: Miss Alice S. Tyler, secretary, State library, Des Moines.

Kansas Traveling Libraries Commission: Miss N. G. Armentrout, secretary, State library, Topeka.

Maine State Library Commission: George T. Little, chairman, Bowdoin college library, Brunswick.

Maryland Public Library Commission: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Washington county free library, Hagerstown.

Maryland State Library Commission: B. C. Steiner, secretary, Enoch Pratt free library, Baltimore.

Massachusetts Free Public Library Commission: C. B. Tillinghast, chairman, State library, Boston.

Michigan Free Public Library Commission: Mrs. M. C. Spencer, secretary, State library, Lansing.

Minnesota State Library Commission: Miss Gratia Countryman, secretary, Public library, Minneapolis.

Nebraska Public Library Commission: Miss Edna D. Bullock, secretary, Lincoln.

New Hampshire State Library Commission: A. H. Chase, secretary, State library, Concord.

New Jersey Public Library Commission: H. C. Buchanan, secretary, State library, Trenton.

New York. University of the State of New York: Public libraries division; Melvil Dewey, director, State library, Albany.

Ohio Board of Library Commissioners: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State library, Columbus.

Pennsylvania Free Library Commission: T. L. Montgomery, secretary, State library, Harrisburg.

Vermont Free Library Commission: Mrs. M. H. Buckham, secretary, Burlington.

Washington State Library Commission: Mrs. K. T. Holmes, secretary, Seattle.

Wisconsin Free Library Commission: Henry E. Legler, secretary, Madison.

**Carnegie gifts.** The following account, by Mrs. H. F. Ring, appeared in the Houston Post, March 21, 1904:

The liberal donations of Mr. Carnegie to the various towns of Texas for library buildings have brought about a transformation of the library situation in Texas, which is almost as startling as it is gratifying. Three years ago, when the only building in the state designed and used exclusively for library purposes was the one enjoyed by the people of Lockhart through the munificence of Dr. Eugene Clark, the most ardent library enthusiast would not have dreamed of the architectural achievements which have been accomplished since then. What a grateful change from rooms in untidy public buildings which were at best but rent free, and from rented rooms in the noisy business districts to these peaceful and artistic homes.

In every instance, Mr. Carnegie has shown sound judgment in the bestowal of his favors, which have only been extended to those whose efforts in the direction of library work have proven their fitness to receive them. A careful perusal of the history of these libraries will show to all the world the large part the club women

